

# THE ECLIPTIC

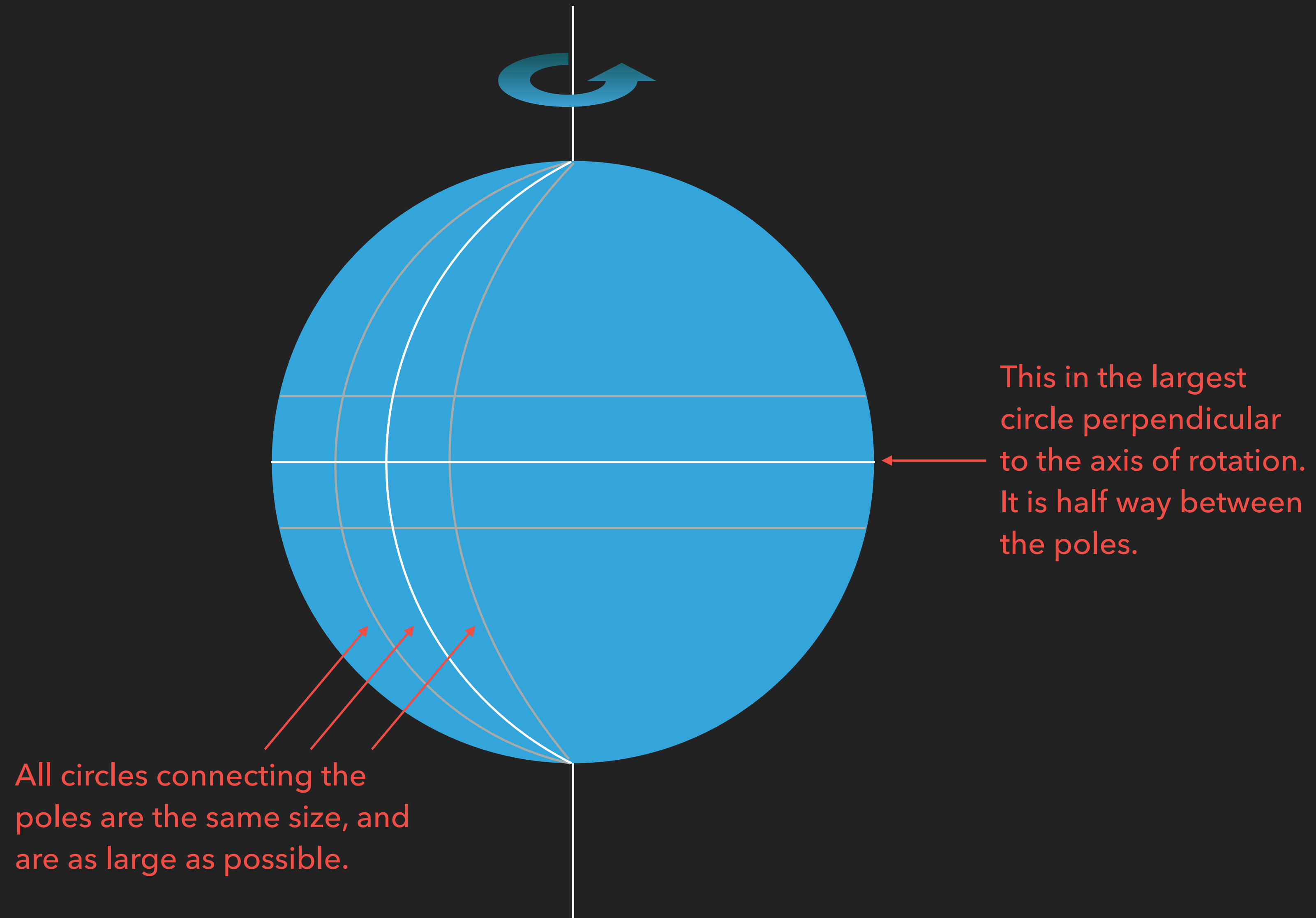


**SPACE**

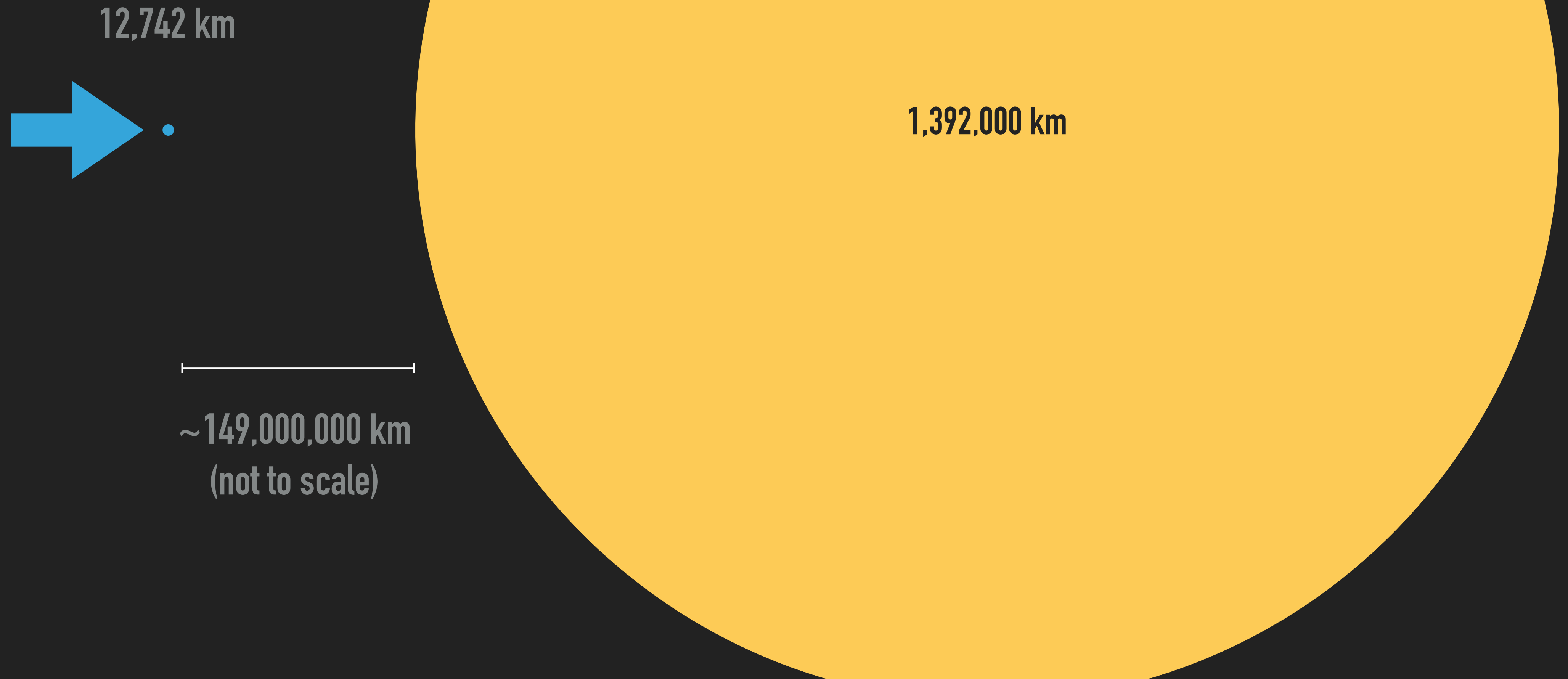
# A SPHERE IN SPACE



# A SPHERE IN SPACE, SPINNING

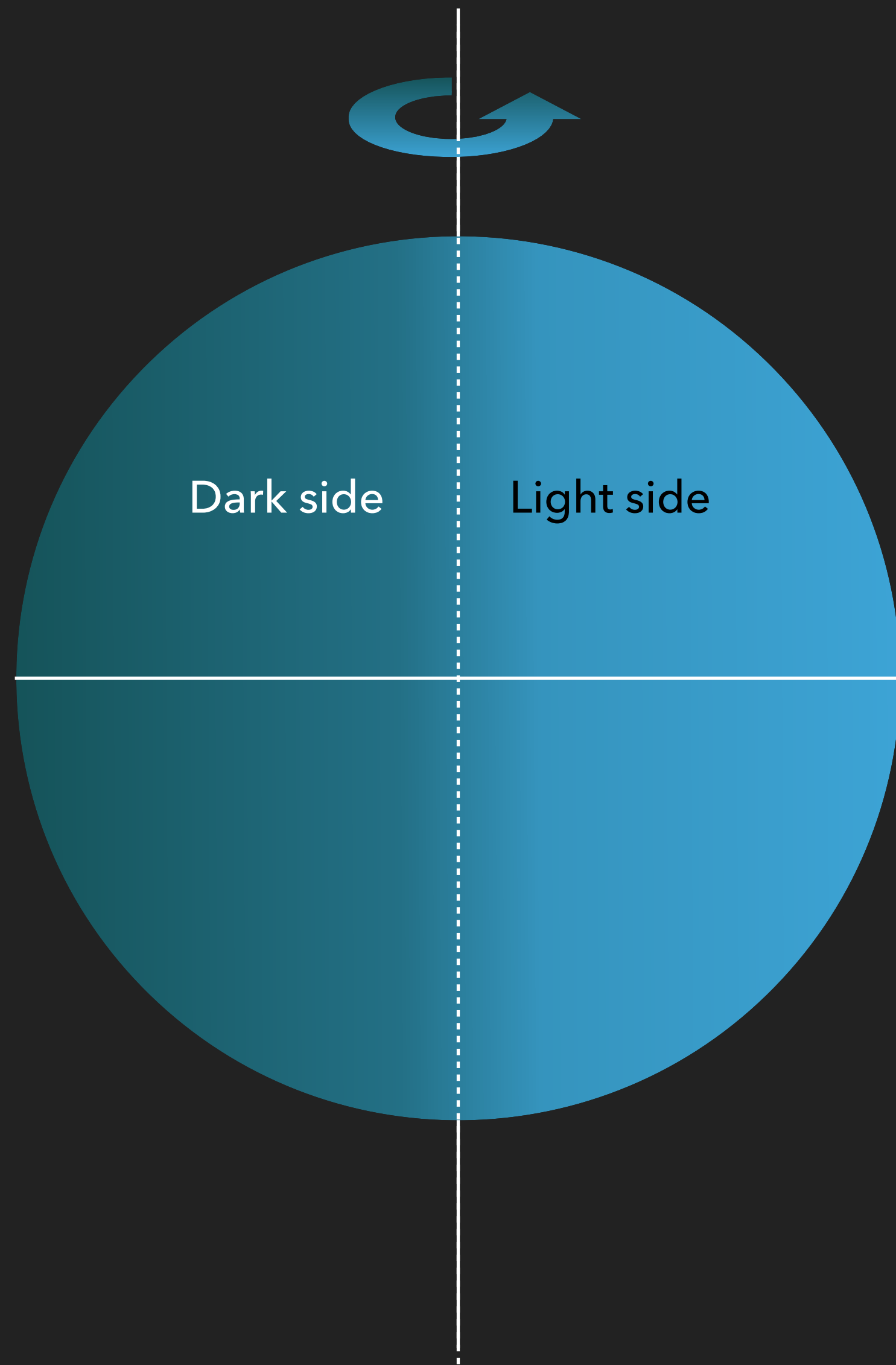


# RELATIVE SIZE, SUN 109X EARTH'S DIAMETER



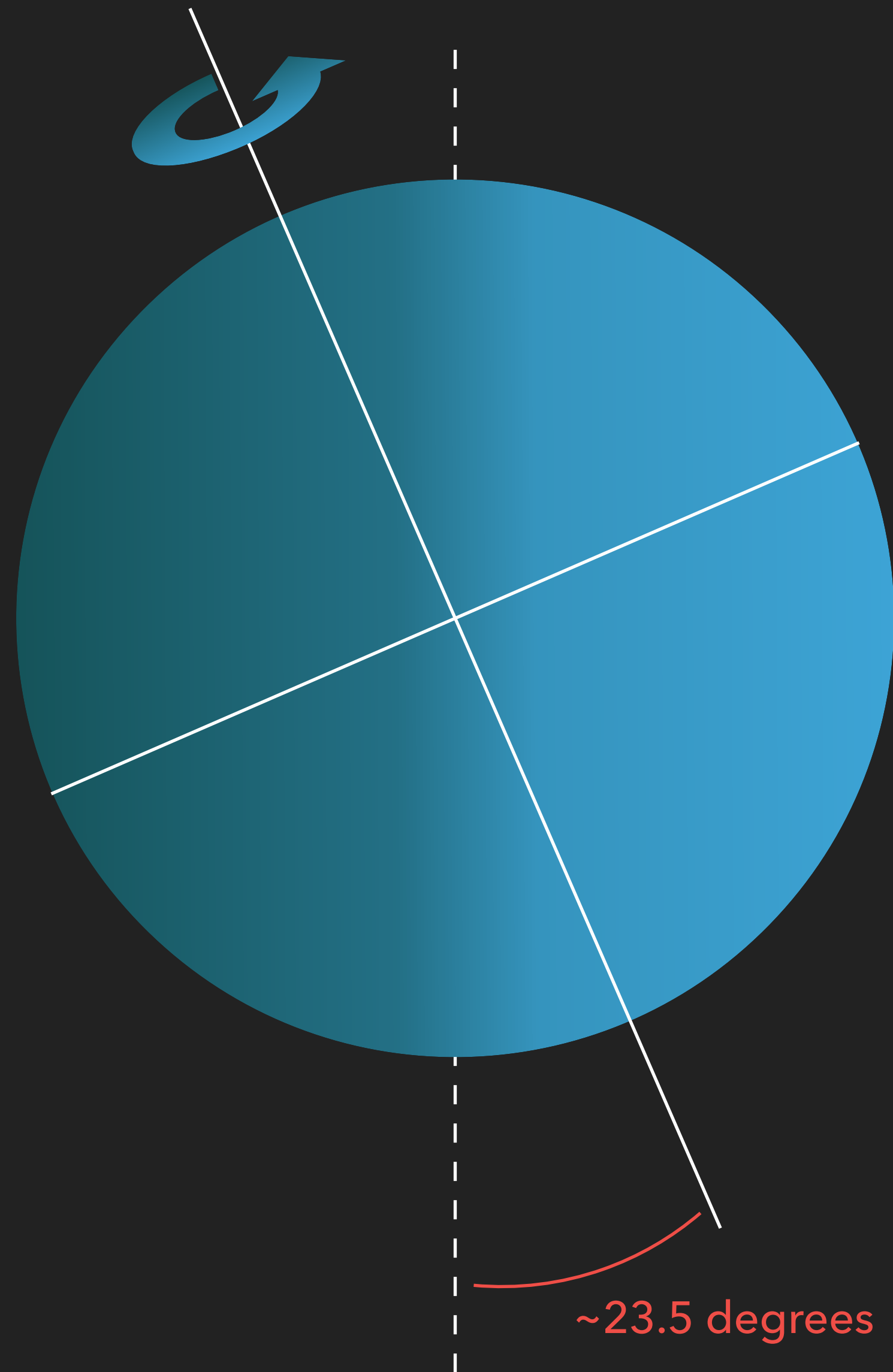
# RELATIVE DISTANCE, EARTH NOT VISIBLE





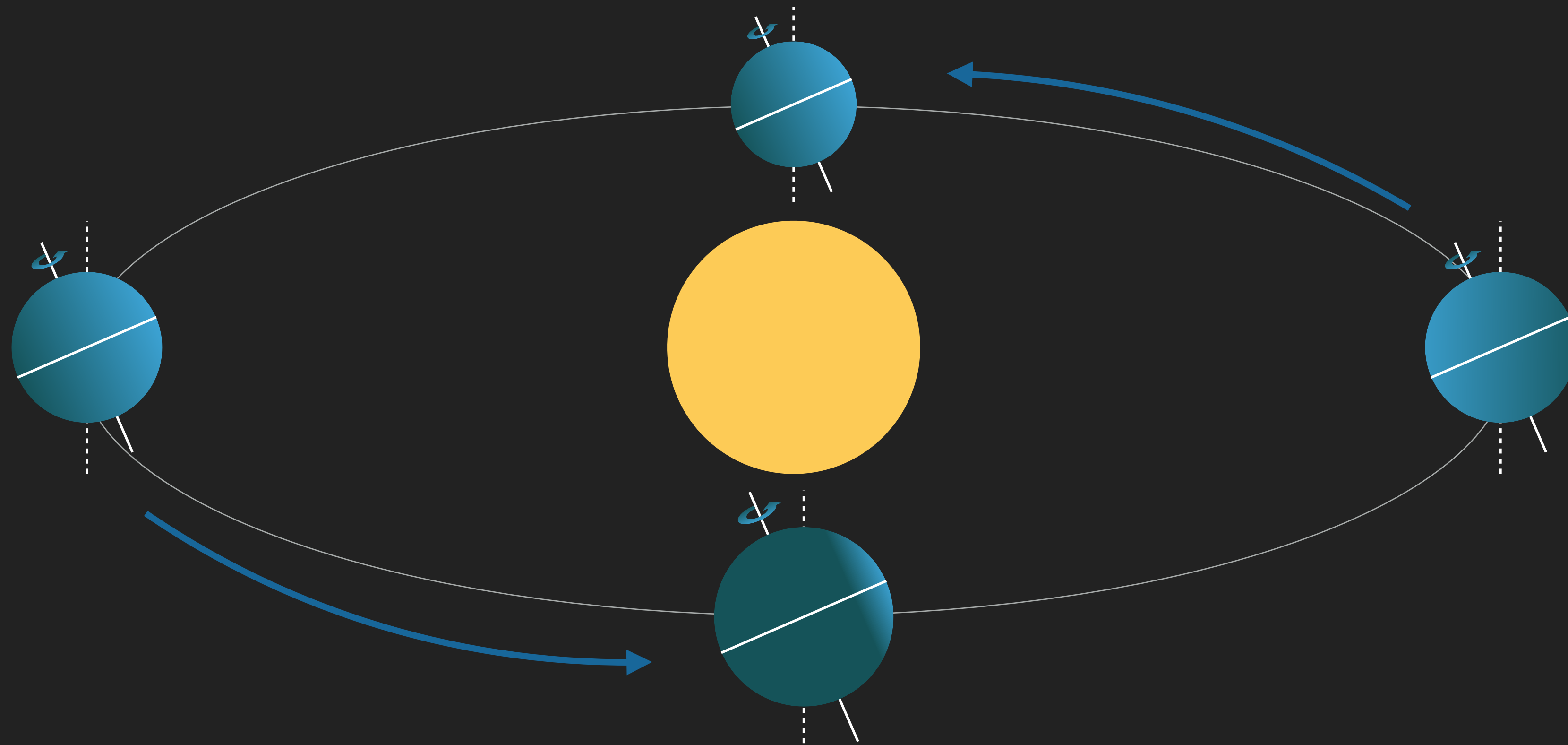


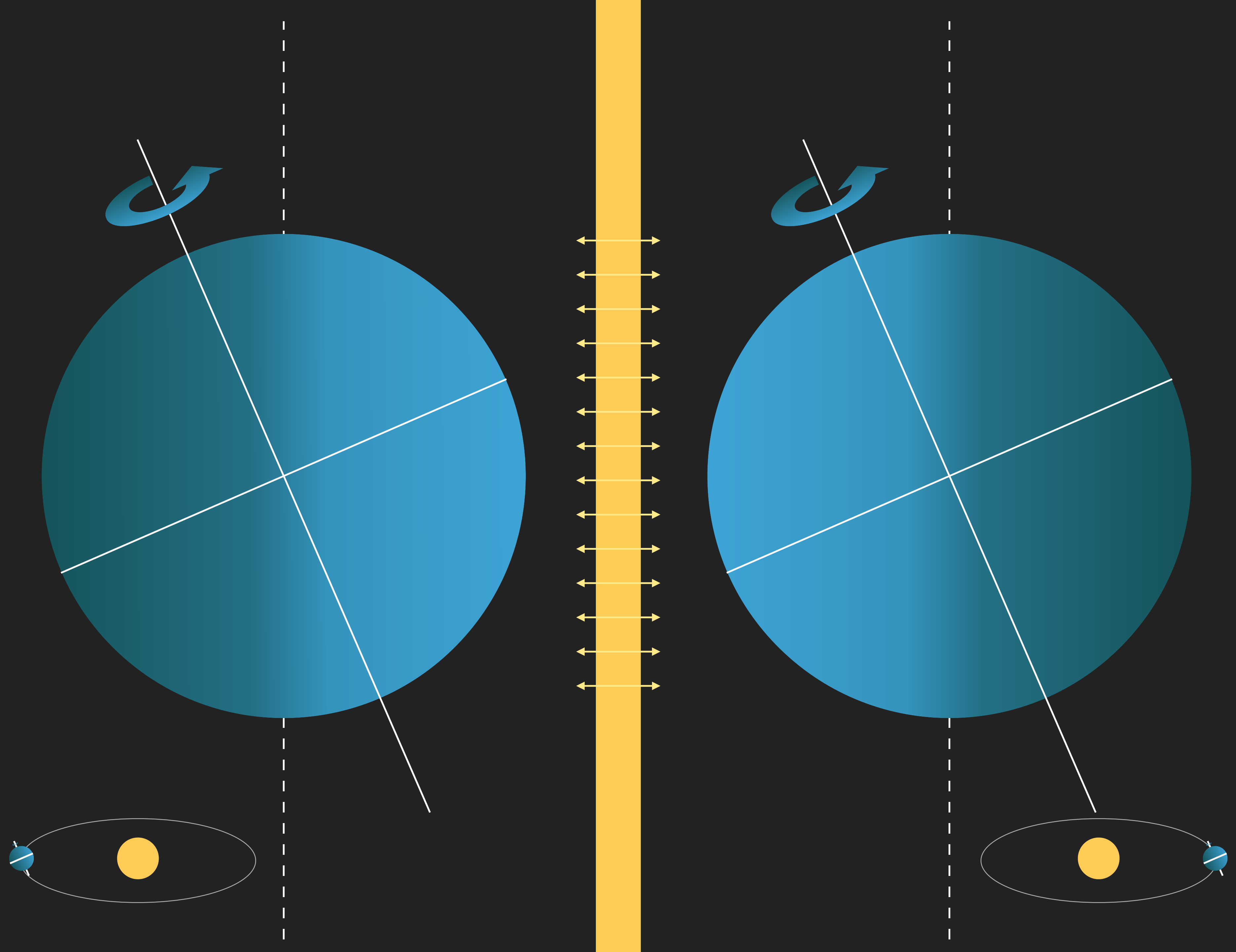
# A SPHERE IN SPACE, SPINNING, TILTED

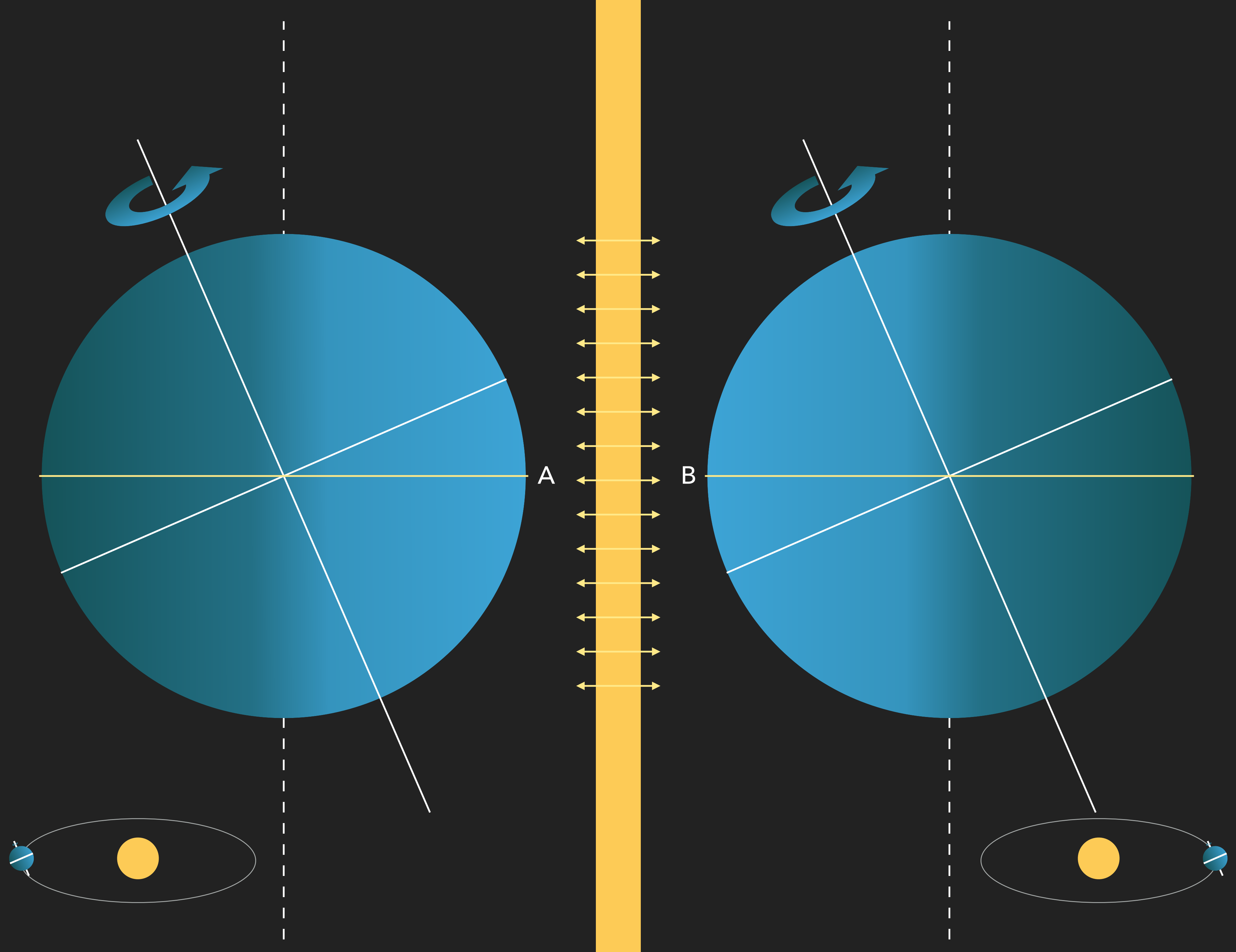


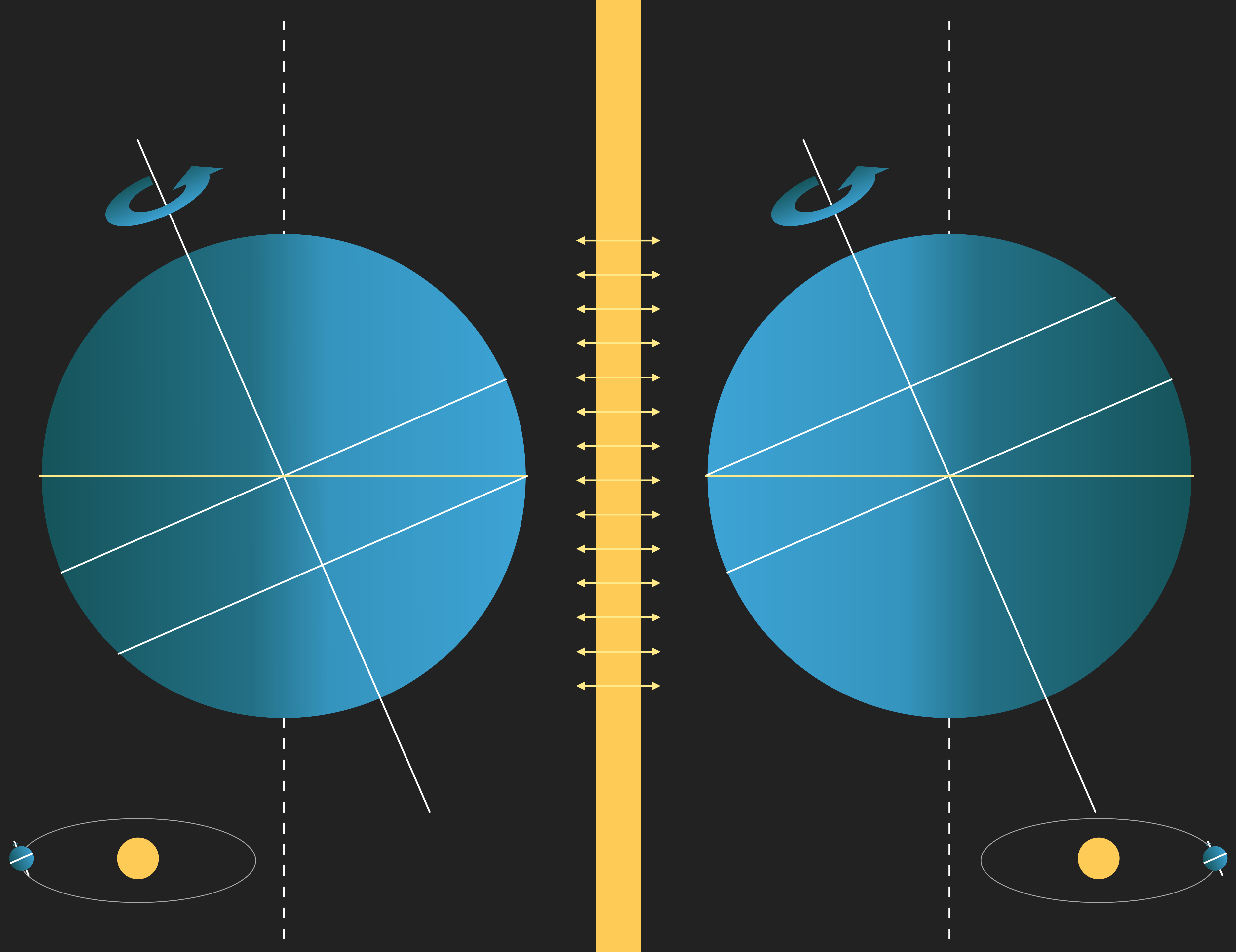
# A SPHERE SPINNING, TILTED, AND ORBITING

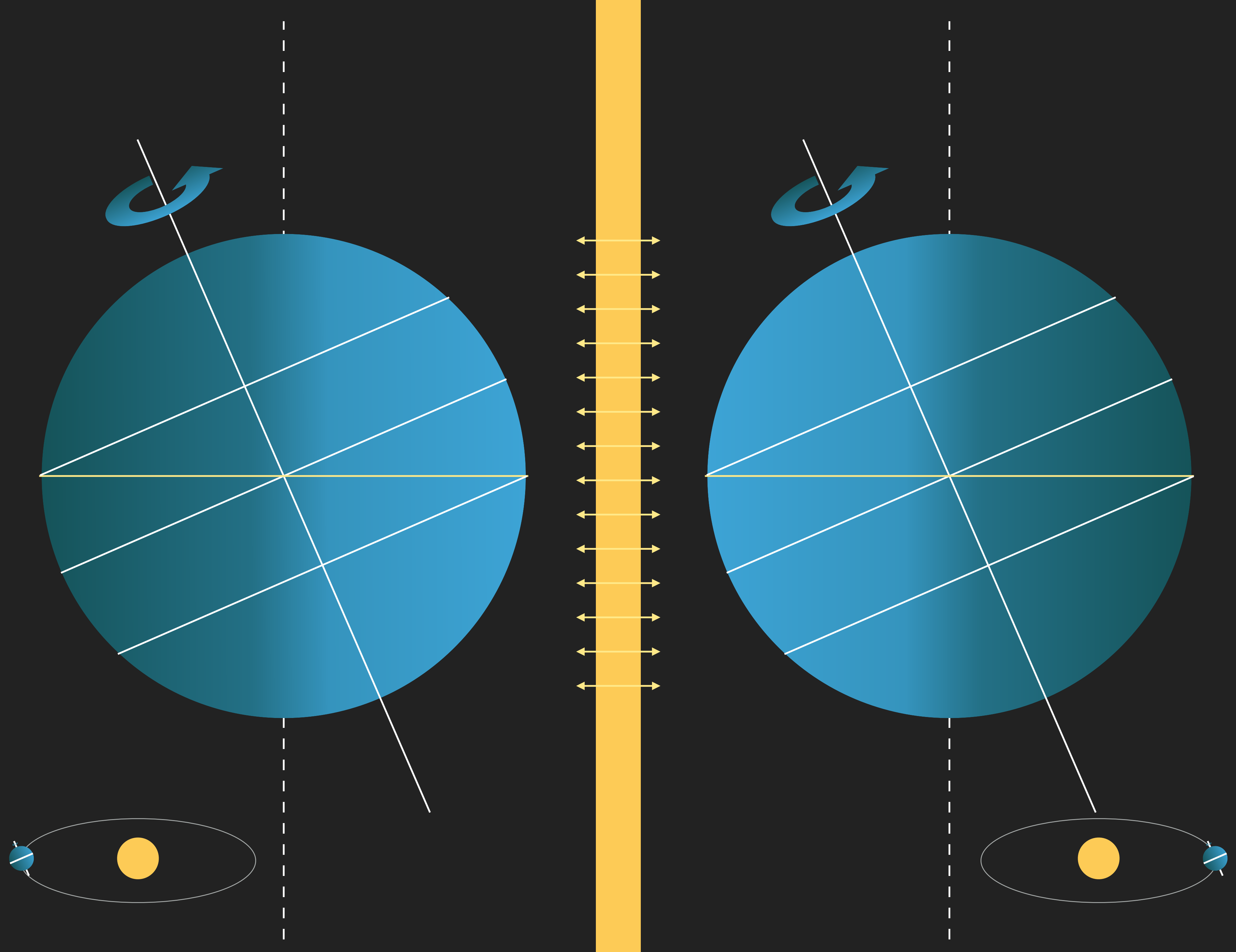
WITH CONSTANT TILT

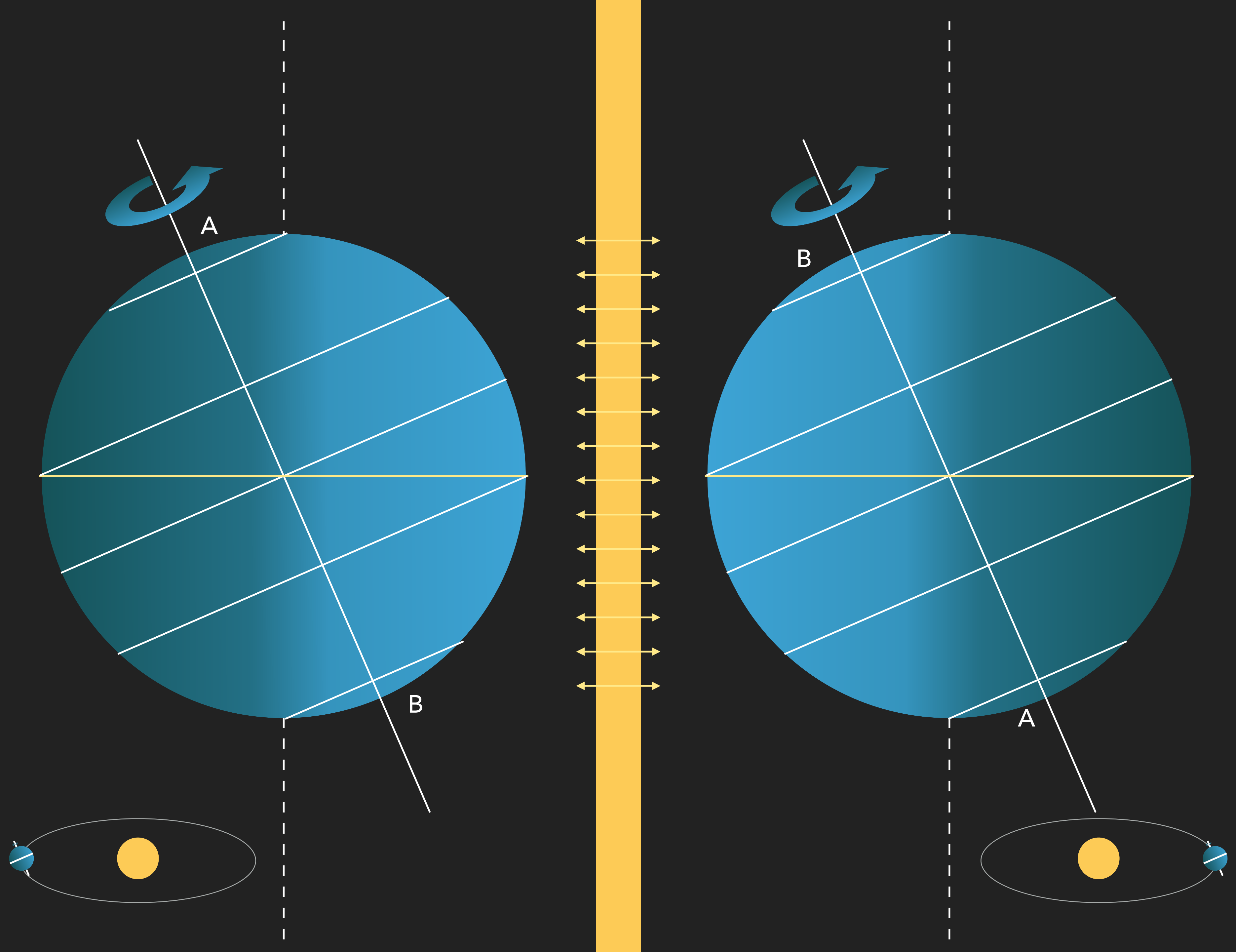


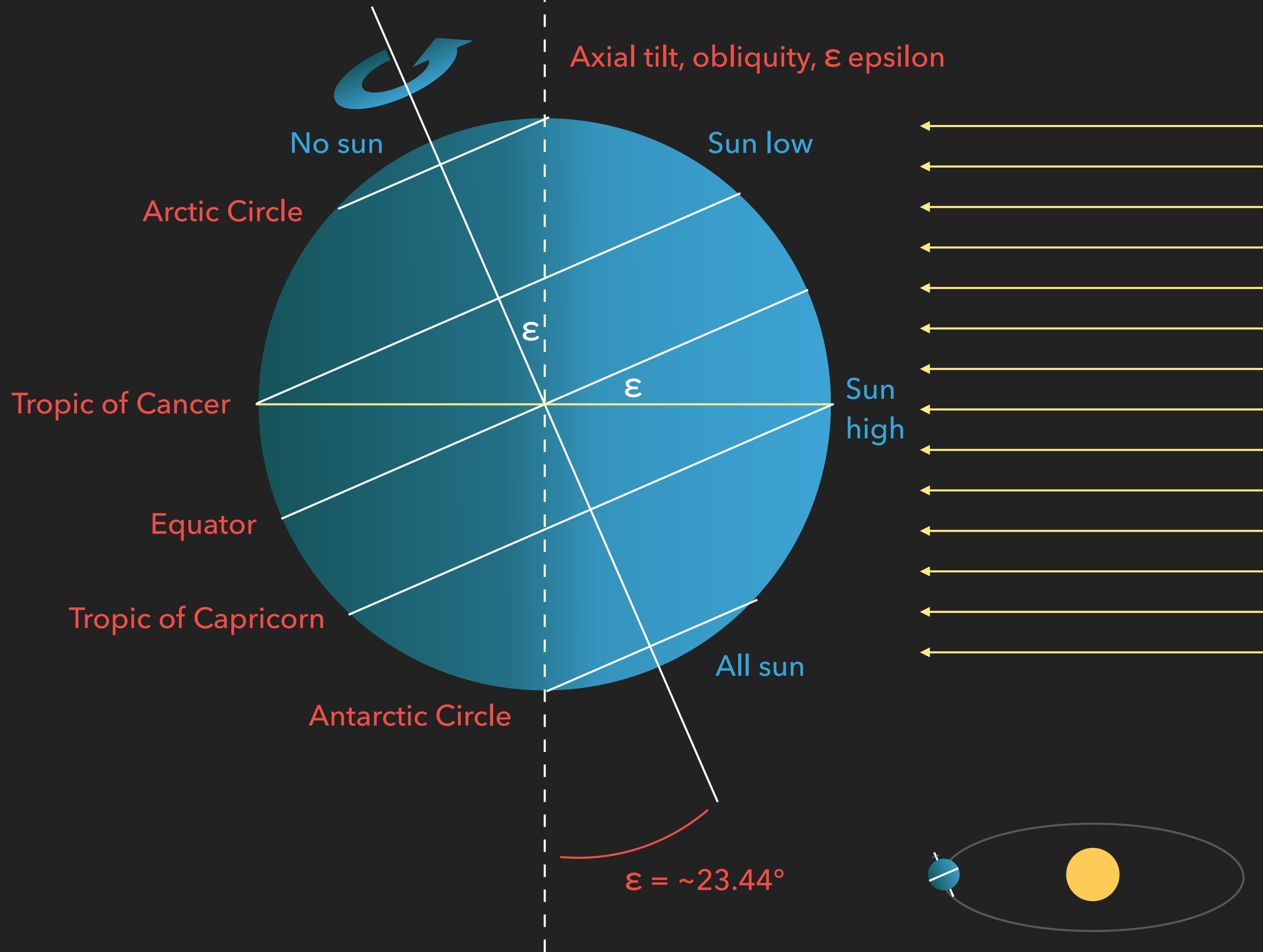




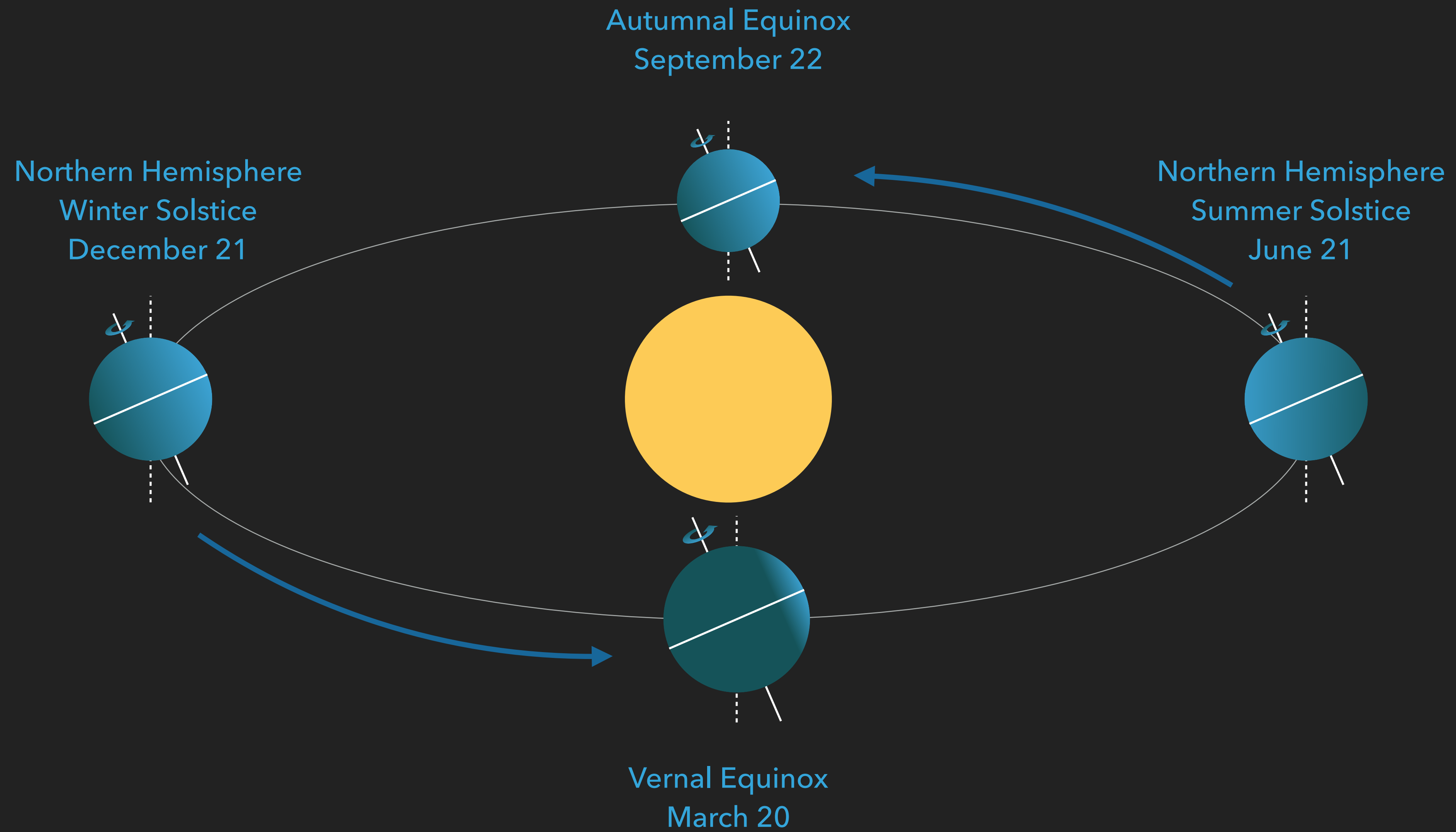




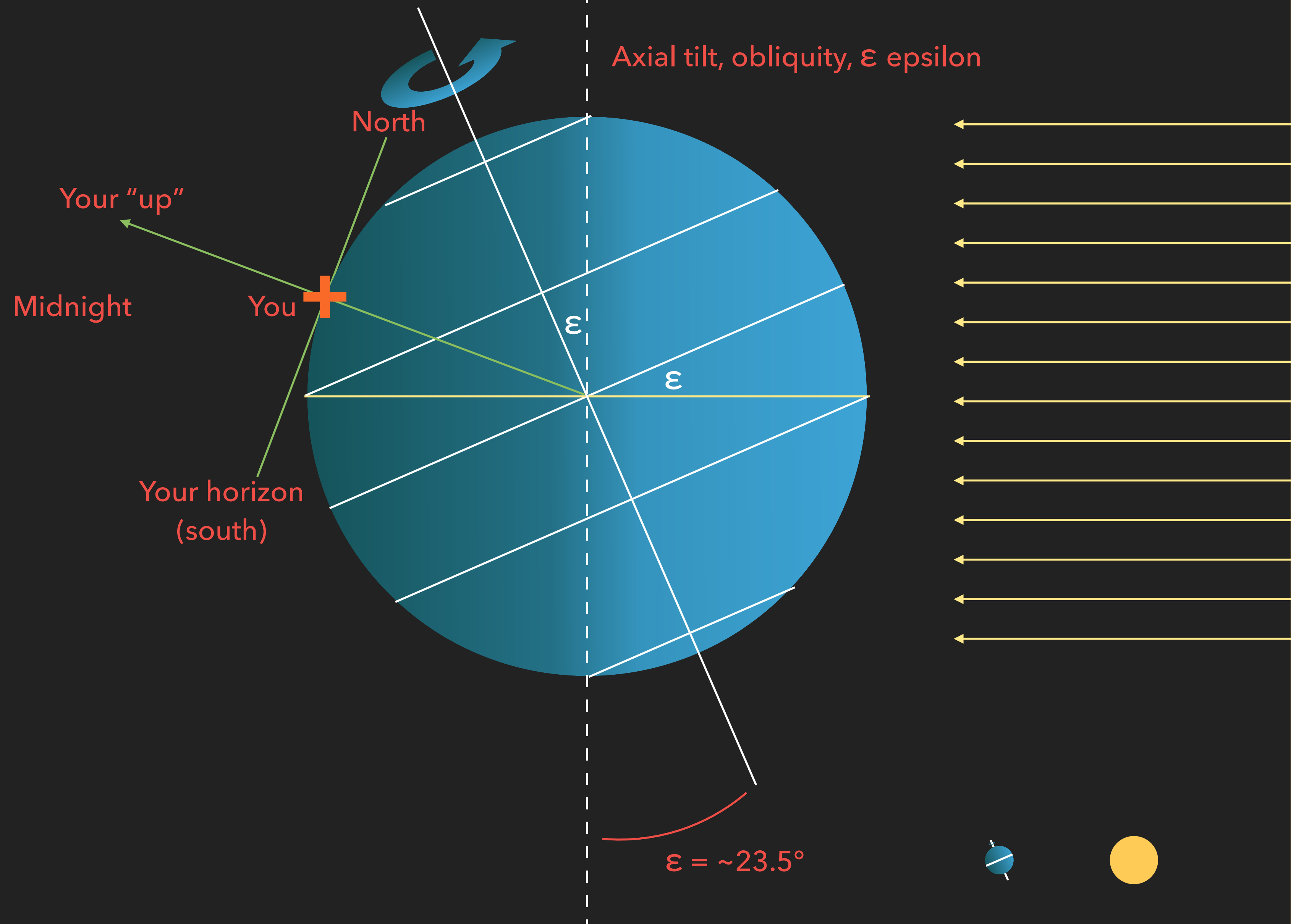




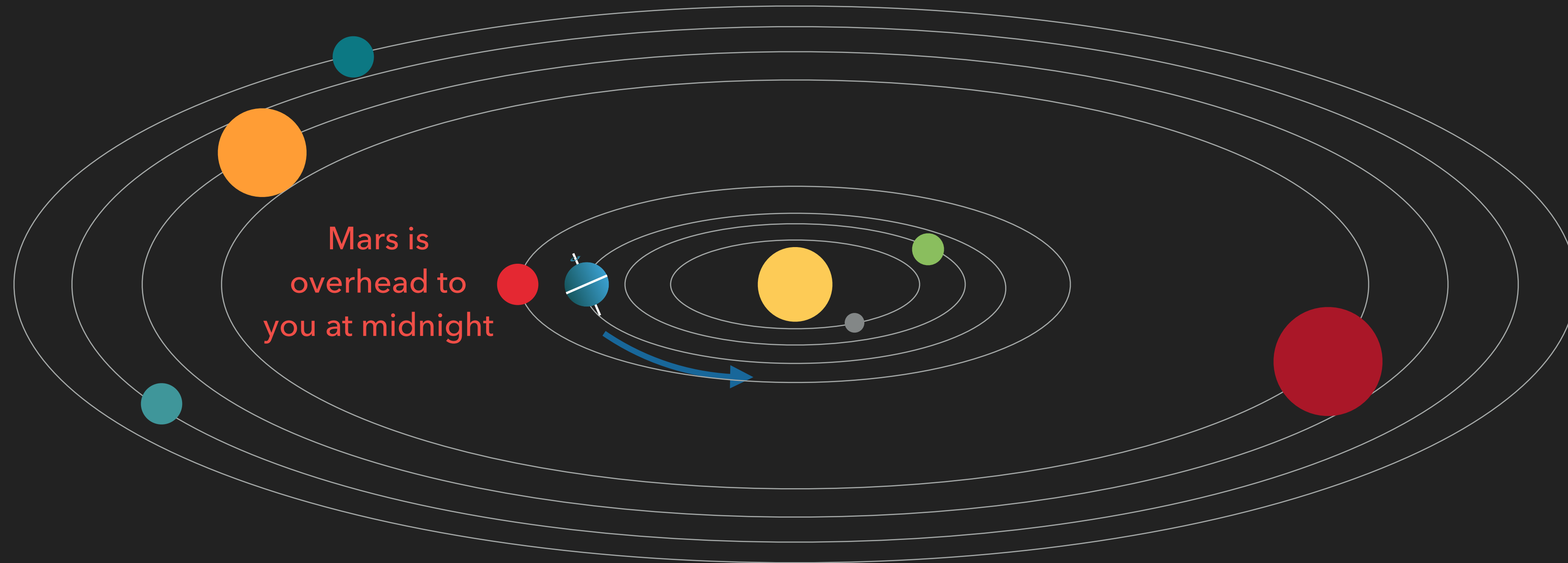




**(PHEW)**

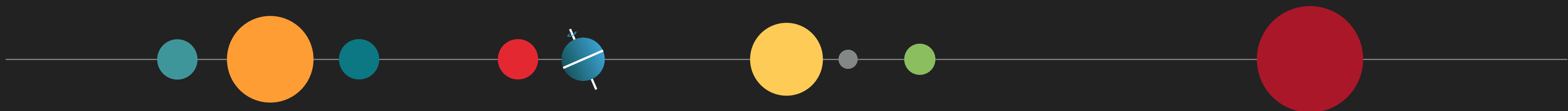
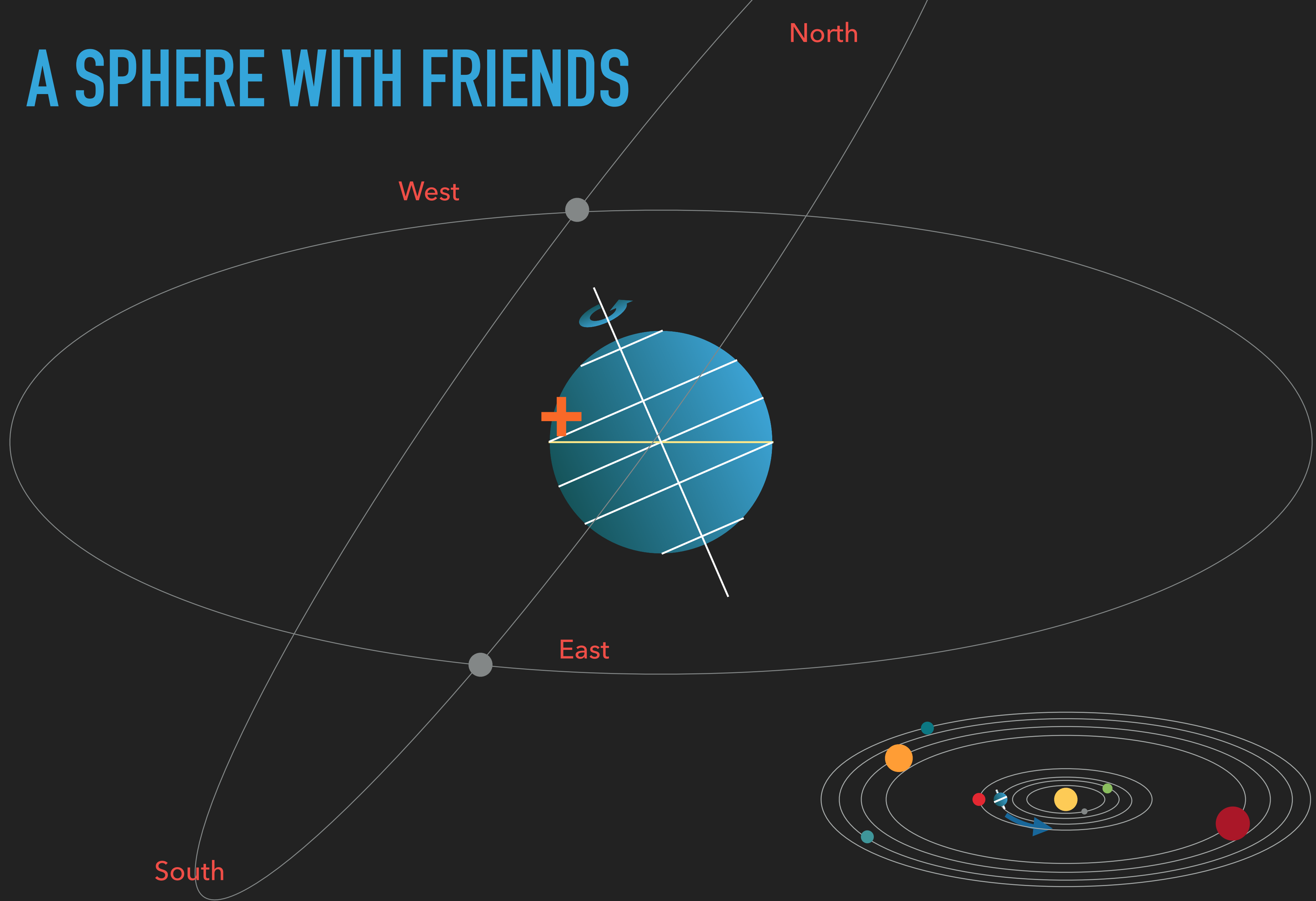


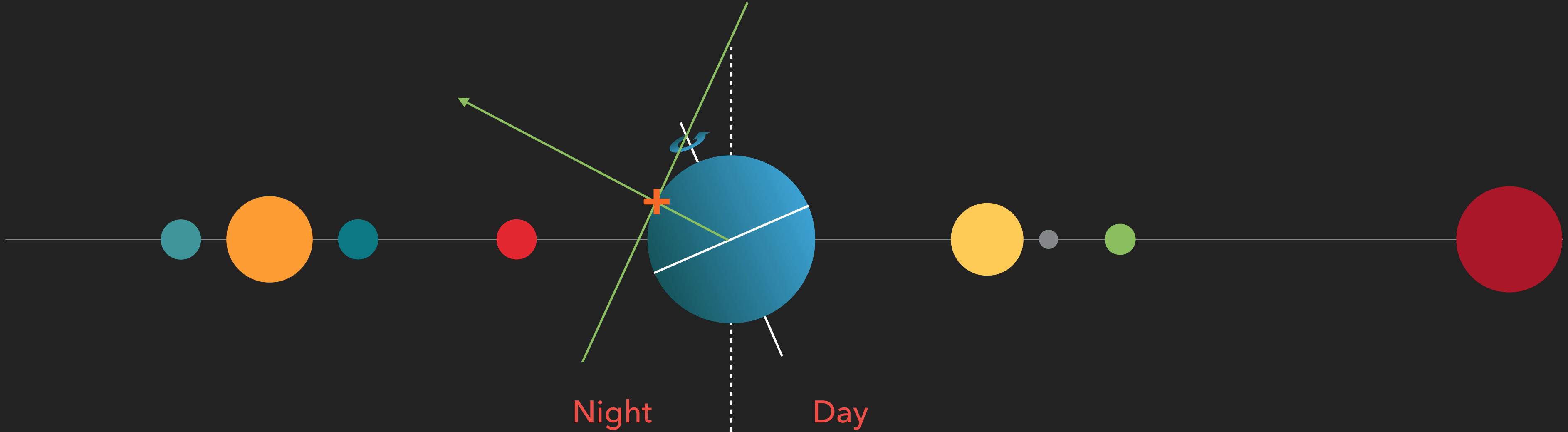
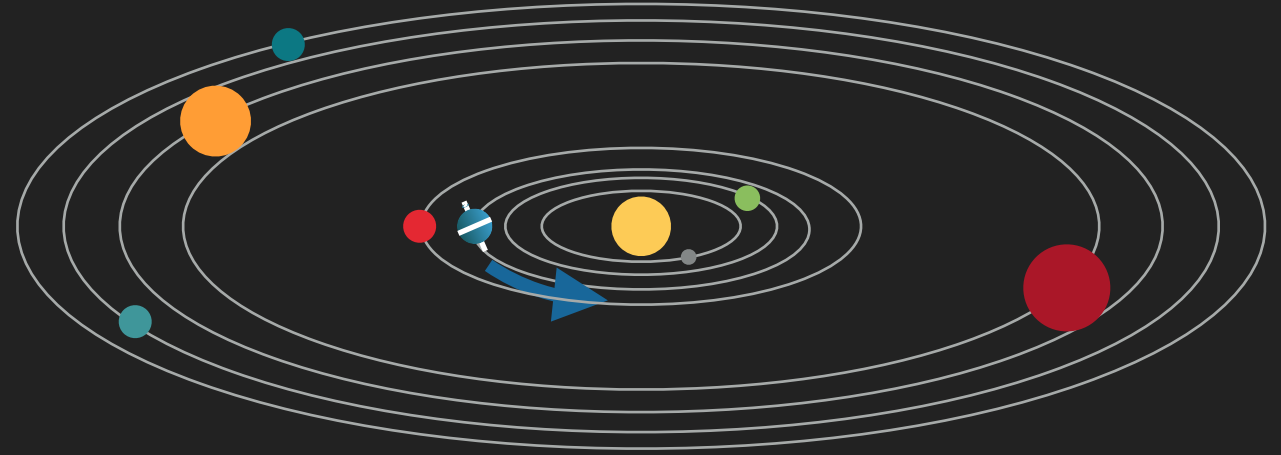
# A SPHERE WITH FRIENDS



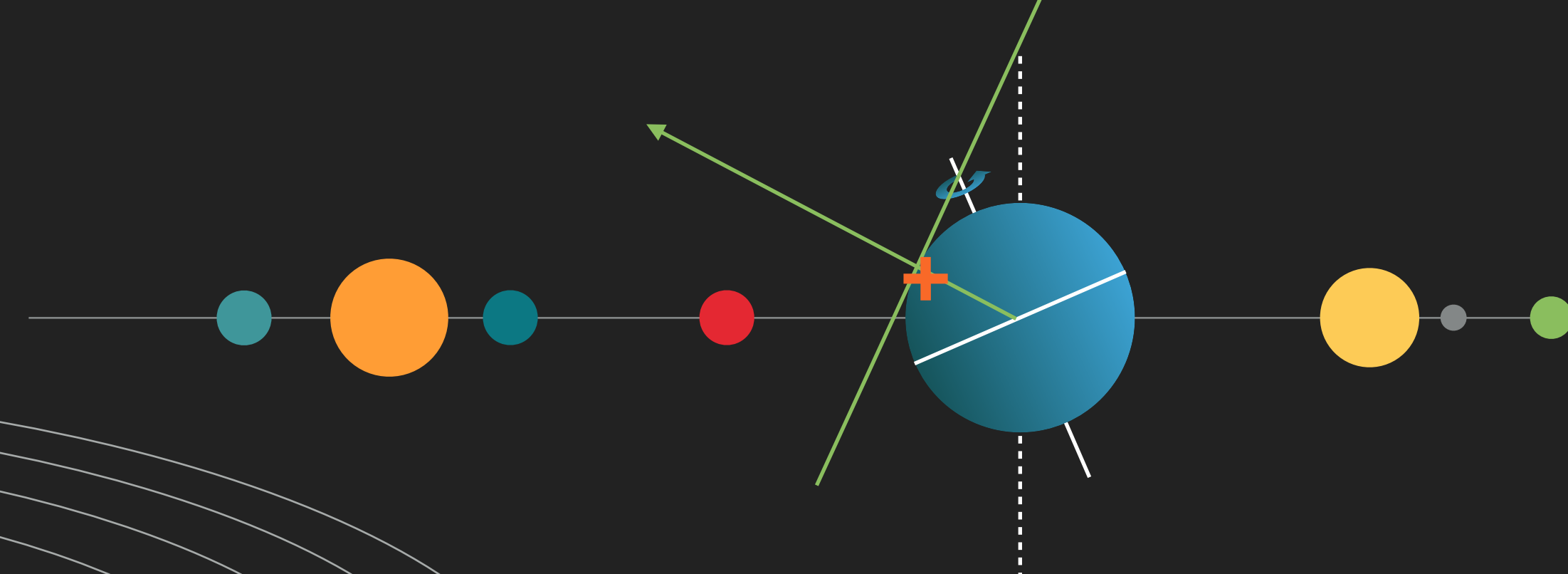
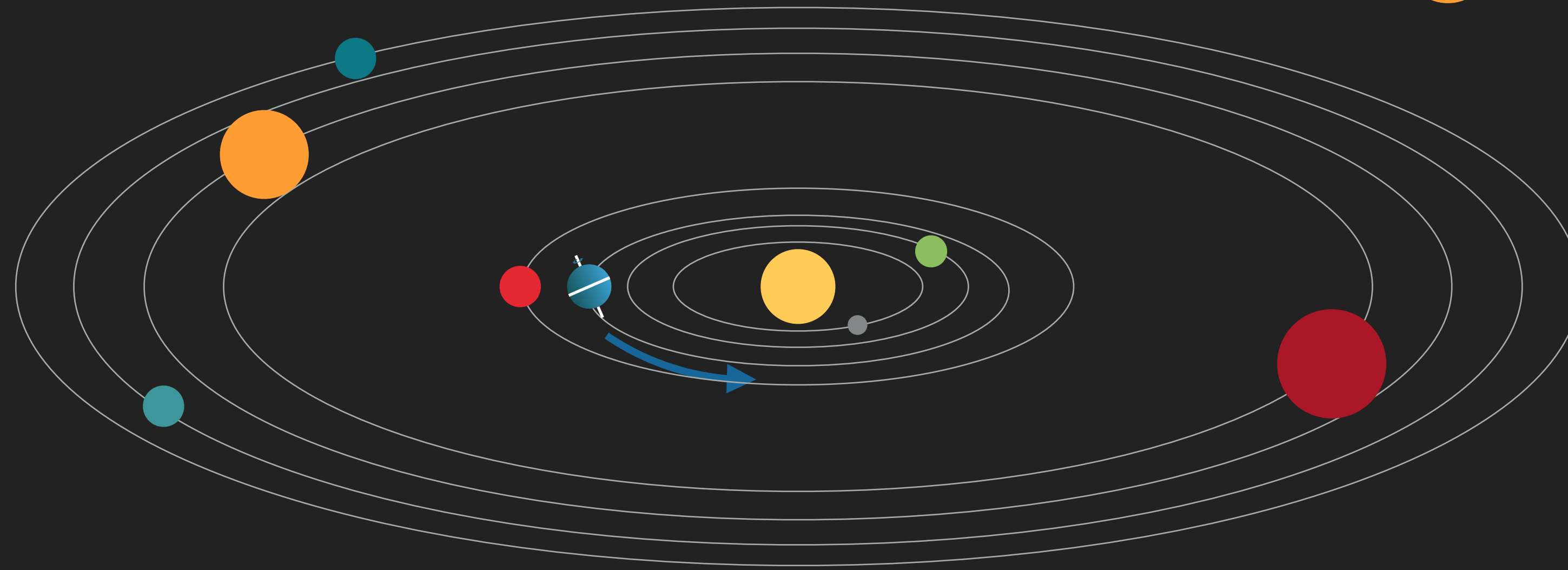
\* Most orbits are close to but not strictly on the same plane

# A SPHERE WITH FRIENDS





# ECLIPTIC



View from "outside" =  
Orrery

Mars is overhead

View for you =  
Planetarium

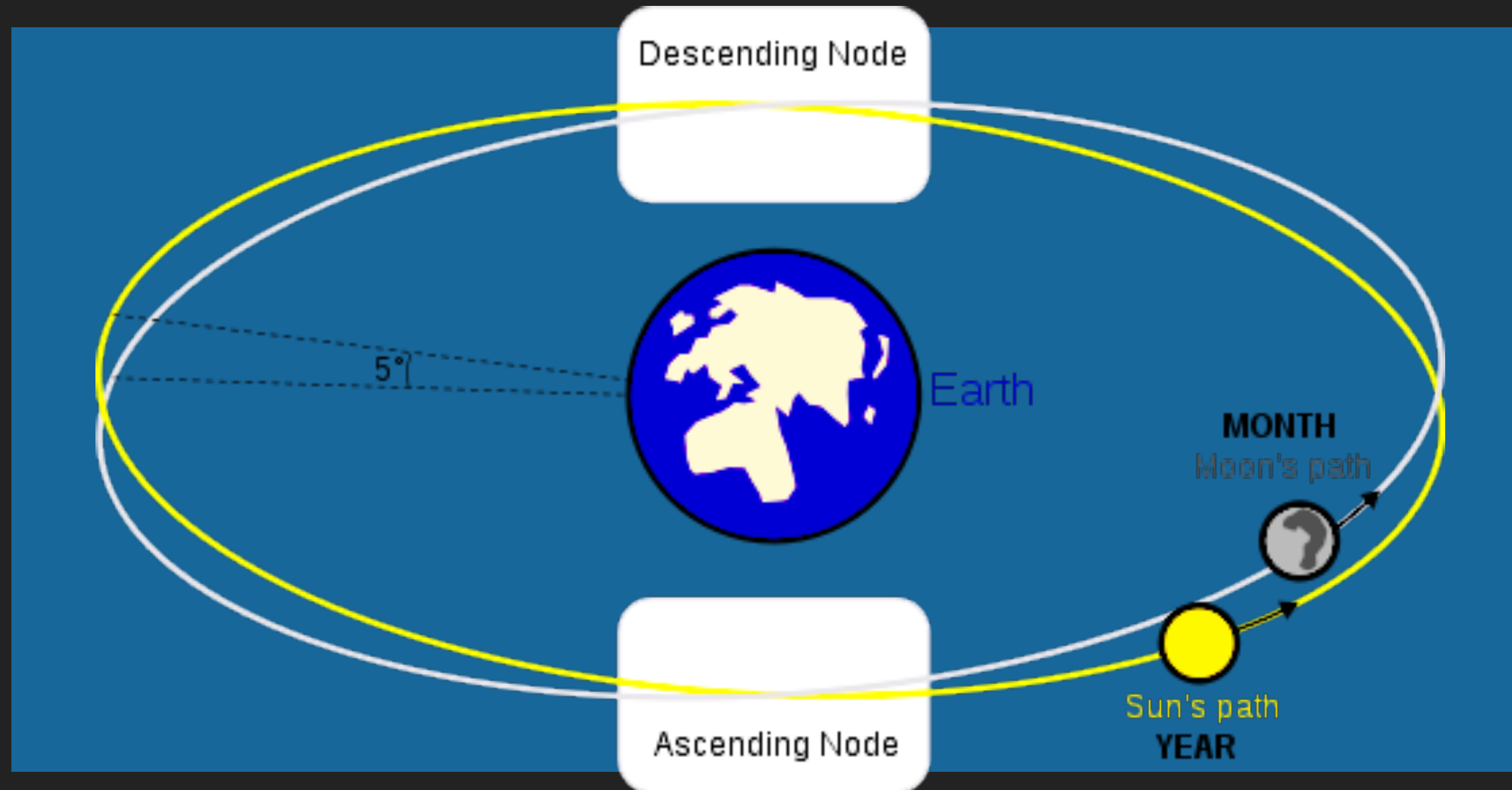
East

South



West

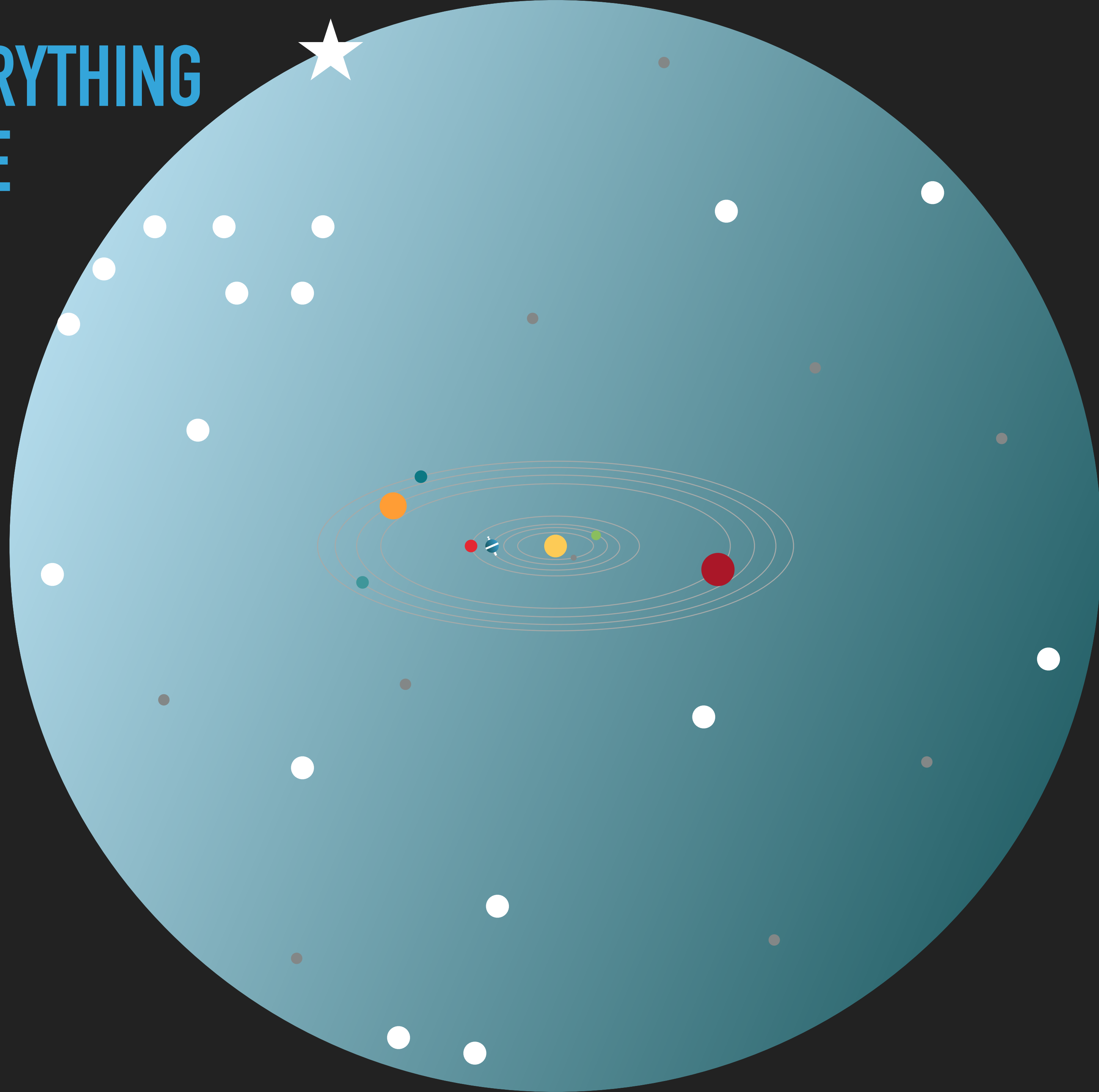
# WHY "ECLIPTIC"



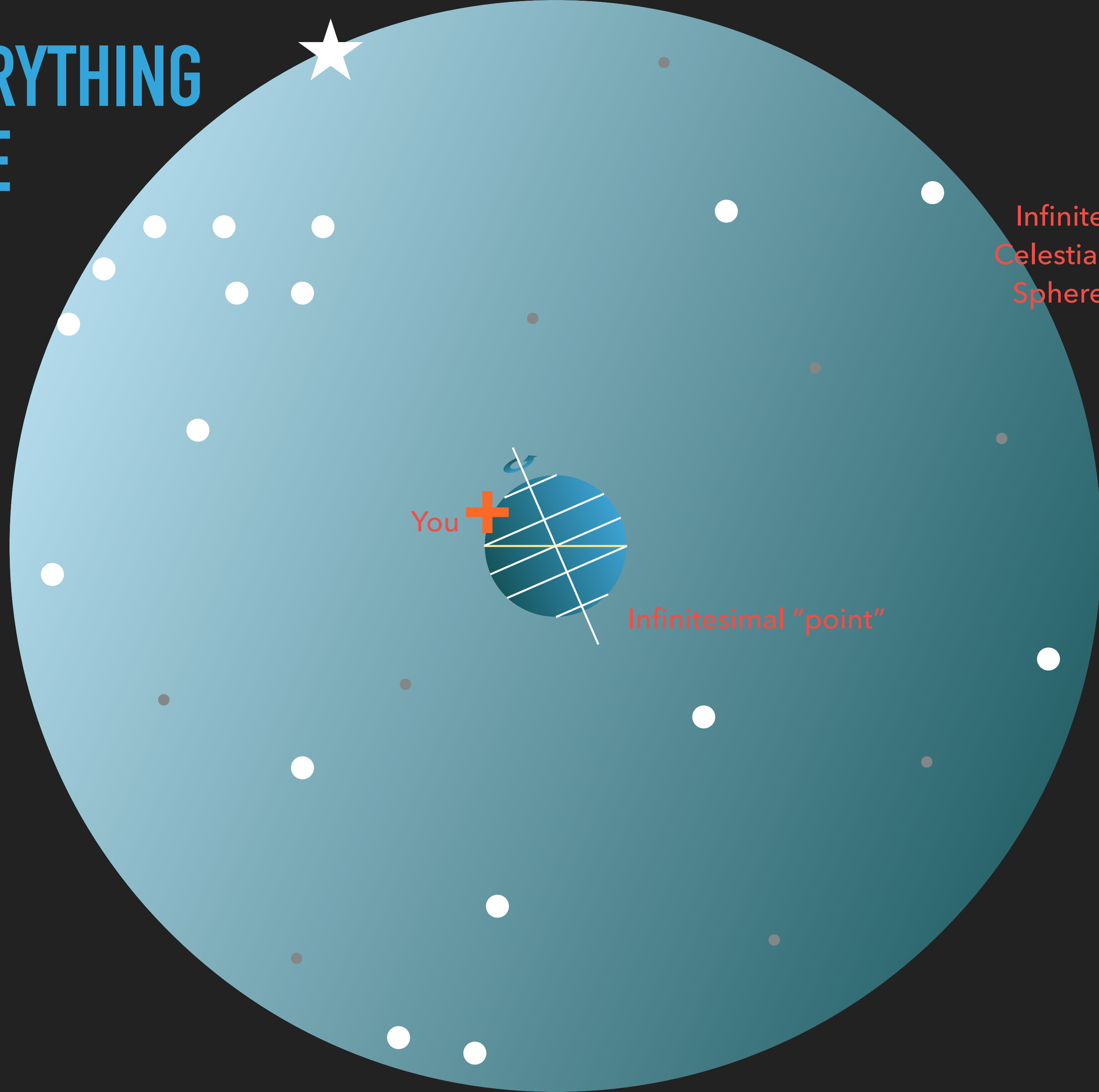


**(PHEW X 2)**

EVERYTHING  
ELSE



EVERYTHING  
ELSE

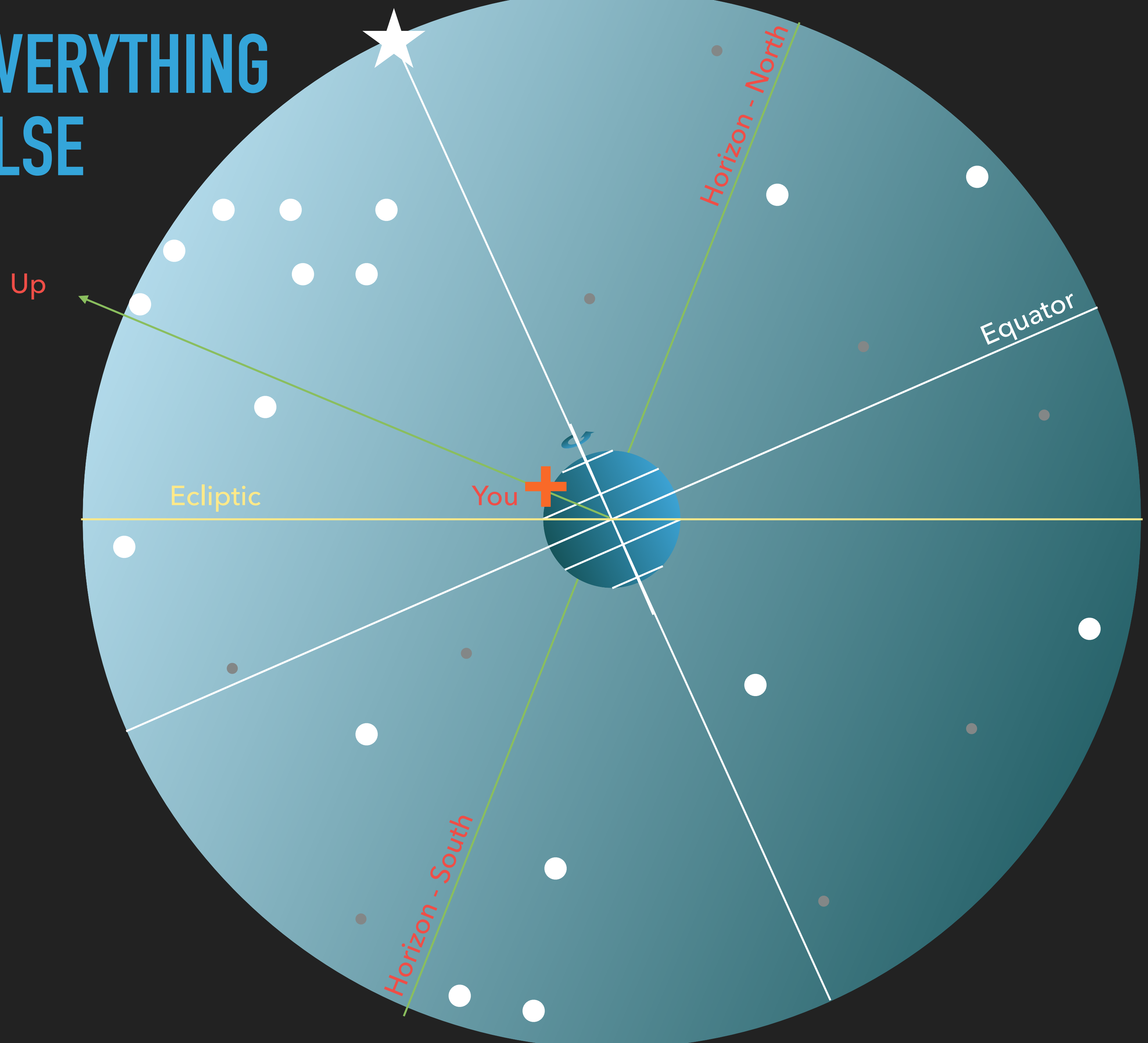


Infinite  
Celestial  
Sphere

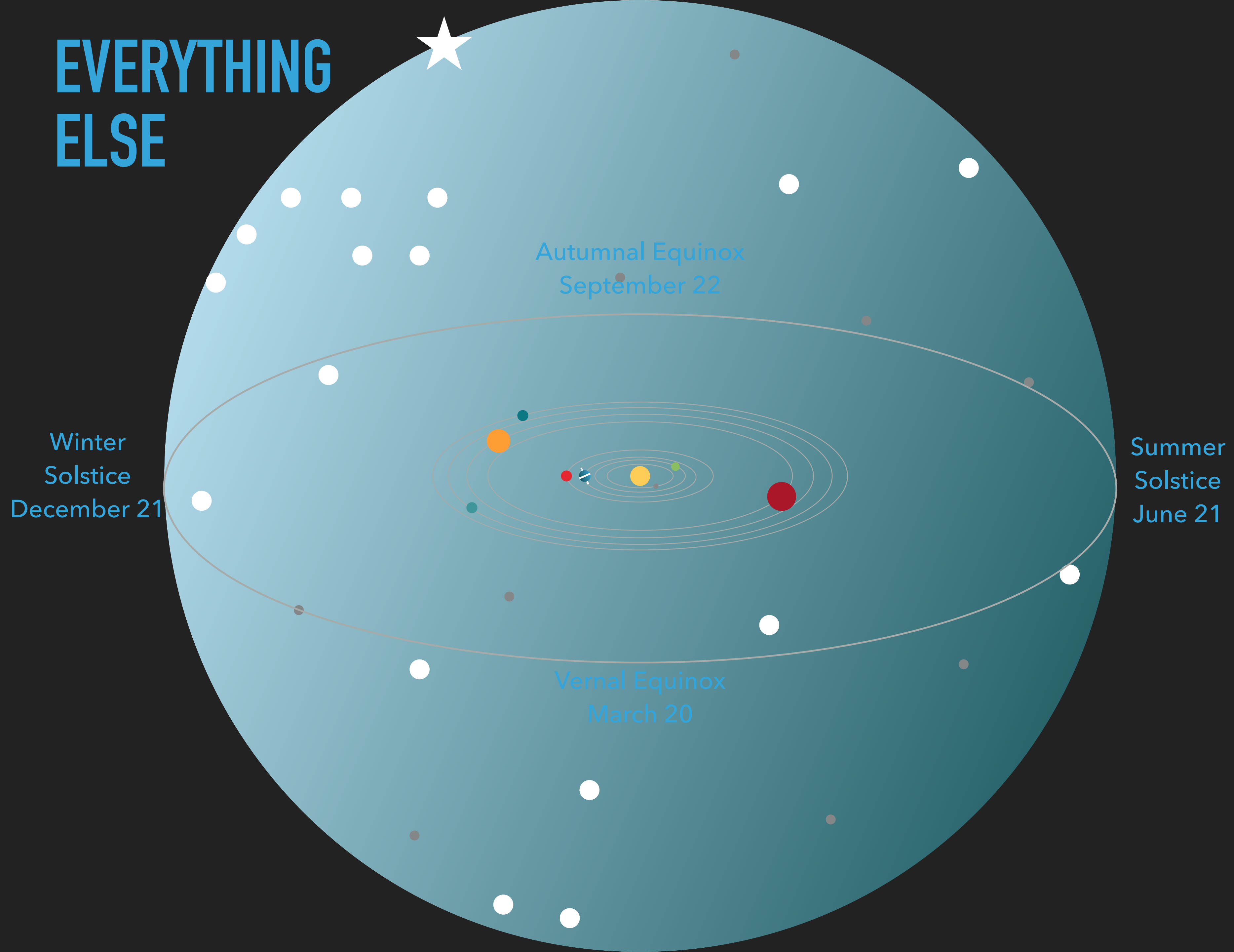
You +

Infinitesimal "point"

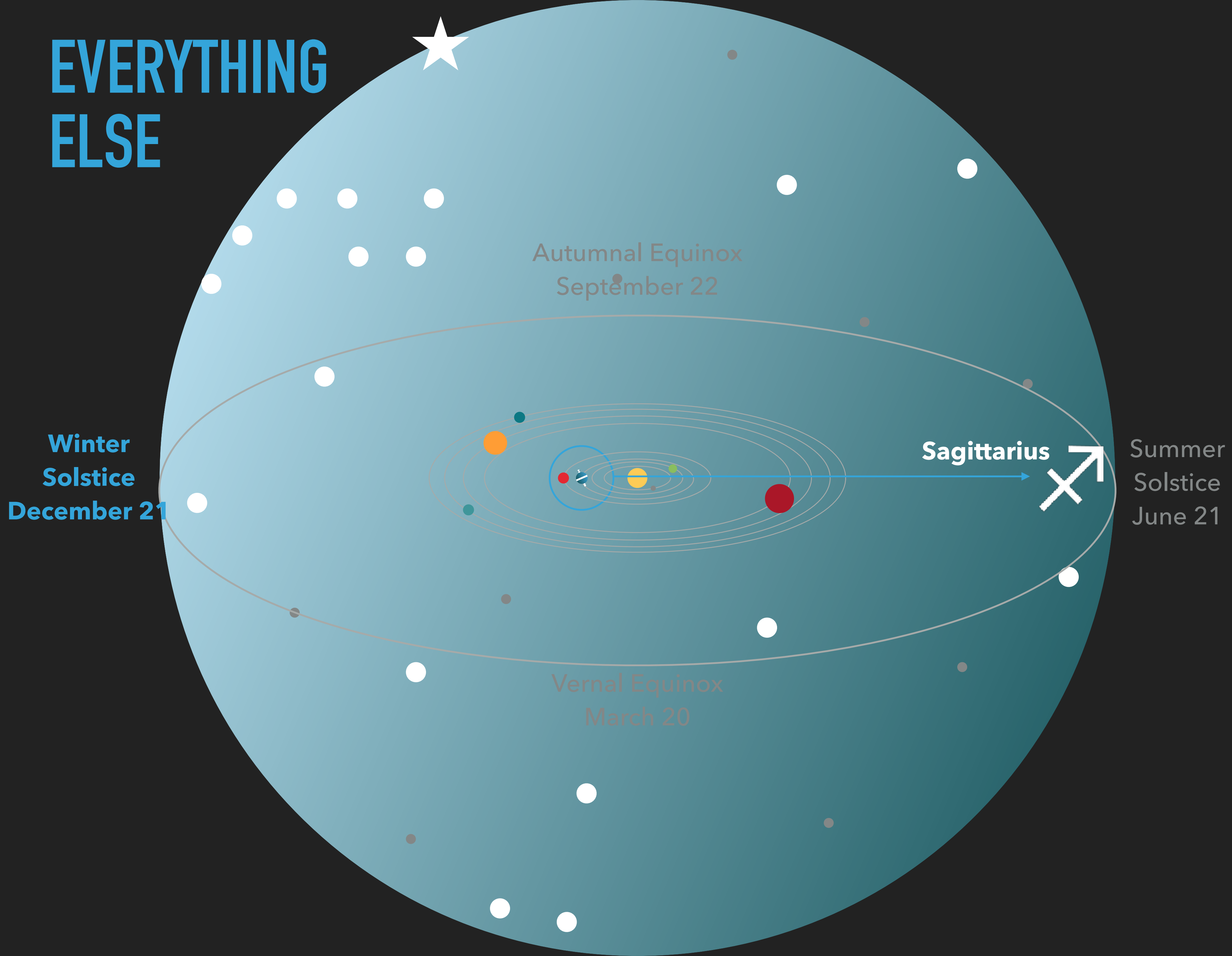
# EVERYTHING ELSE



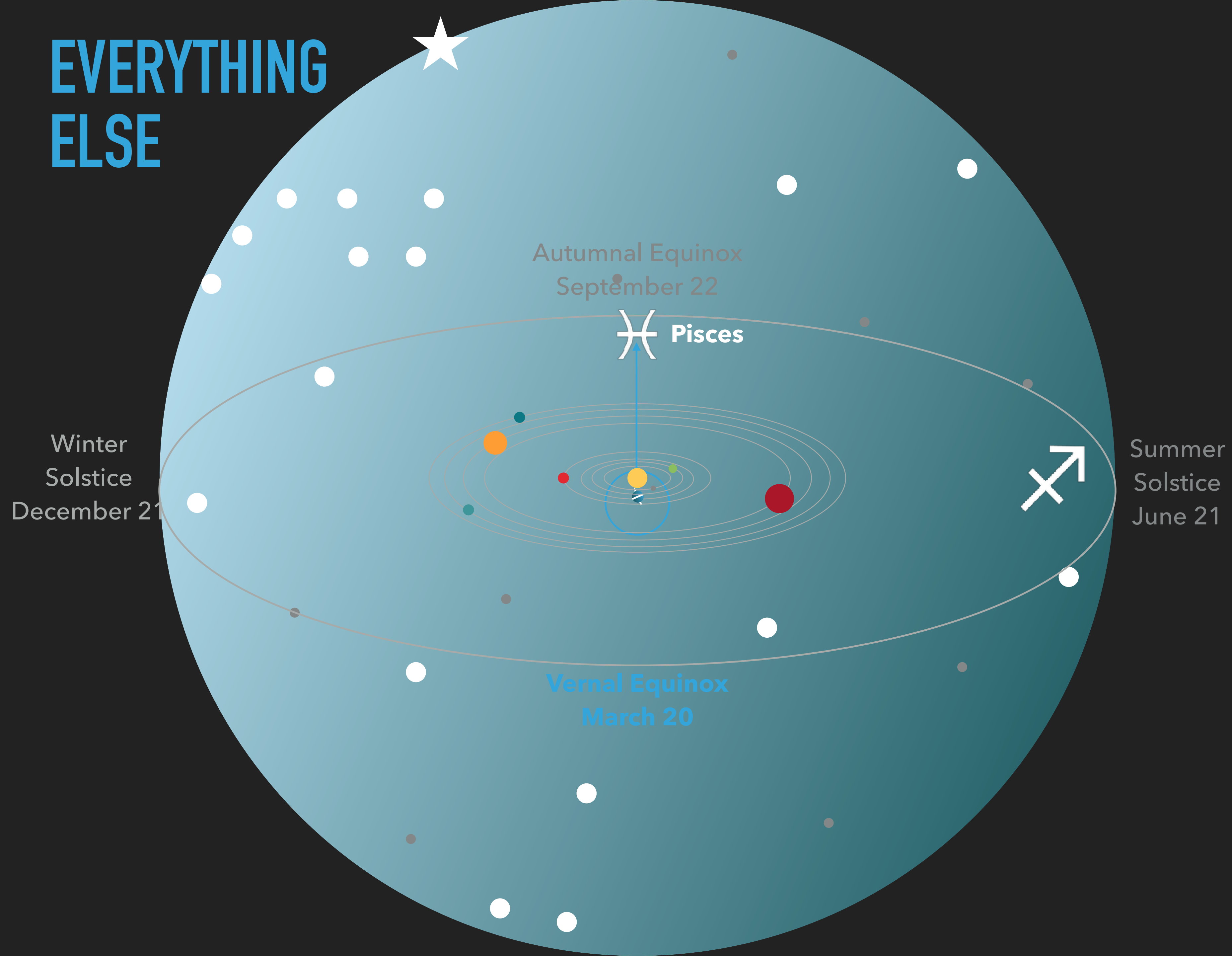
# EVERYTHING ELSE



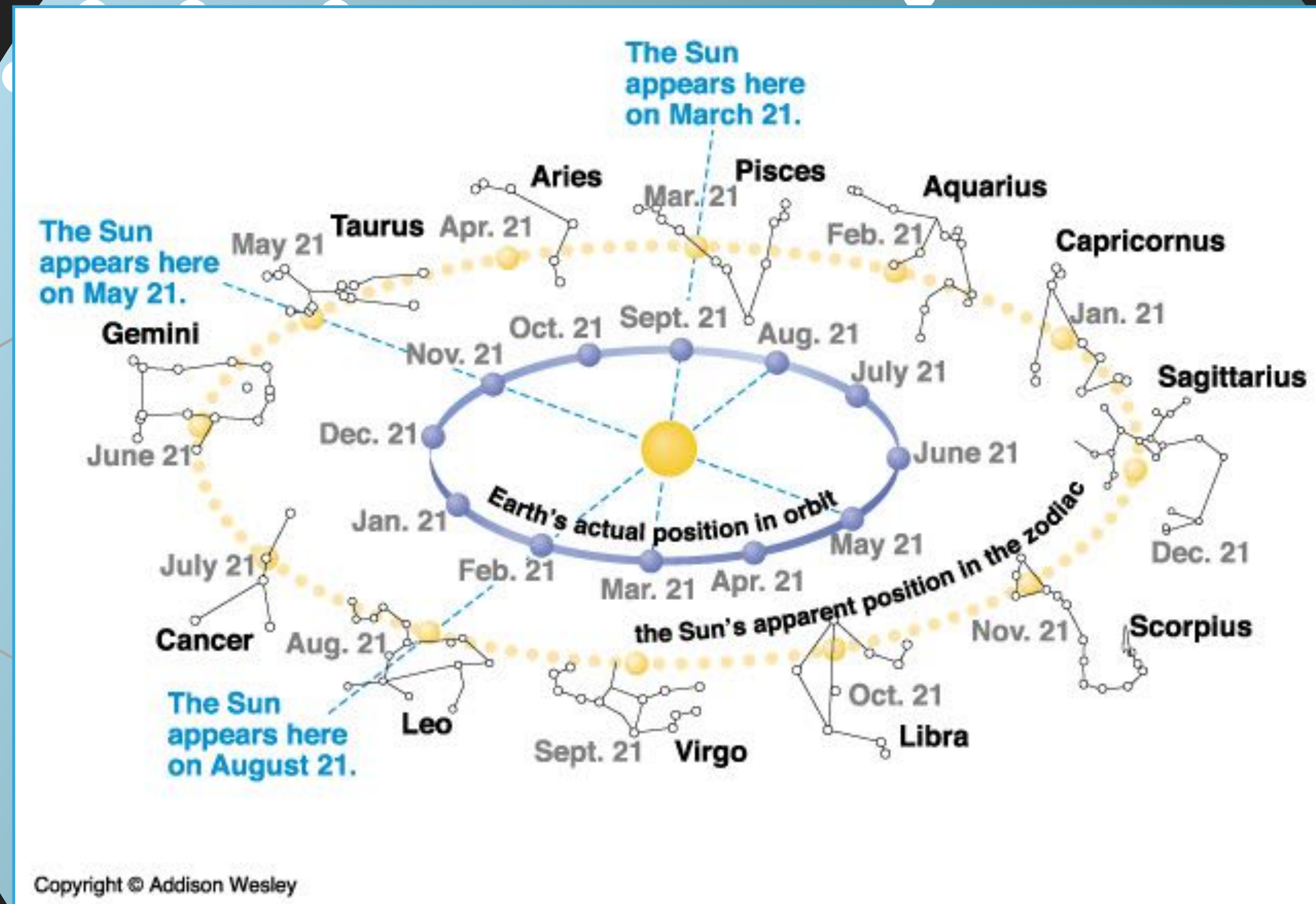
# EVERYTHING ELSE



# EVERYTHING ELSE



# EVERYTHING ELSE



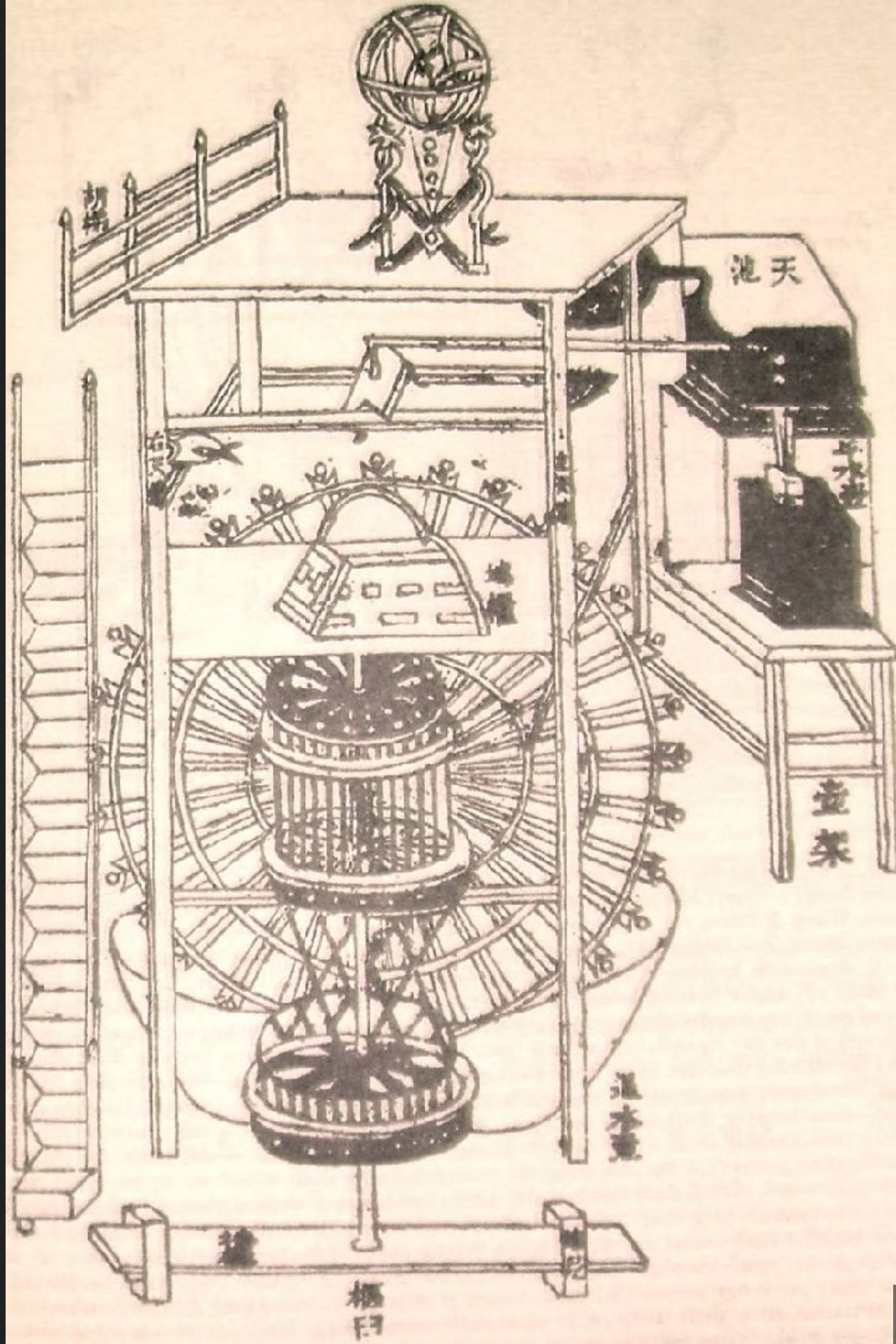
Winter  
Solstice  
December 21

Summer  
Solstice  
June 21





**(PHEW X 3)**





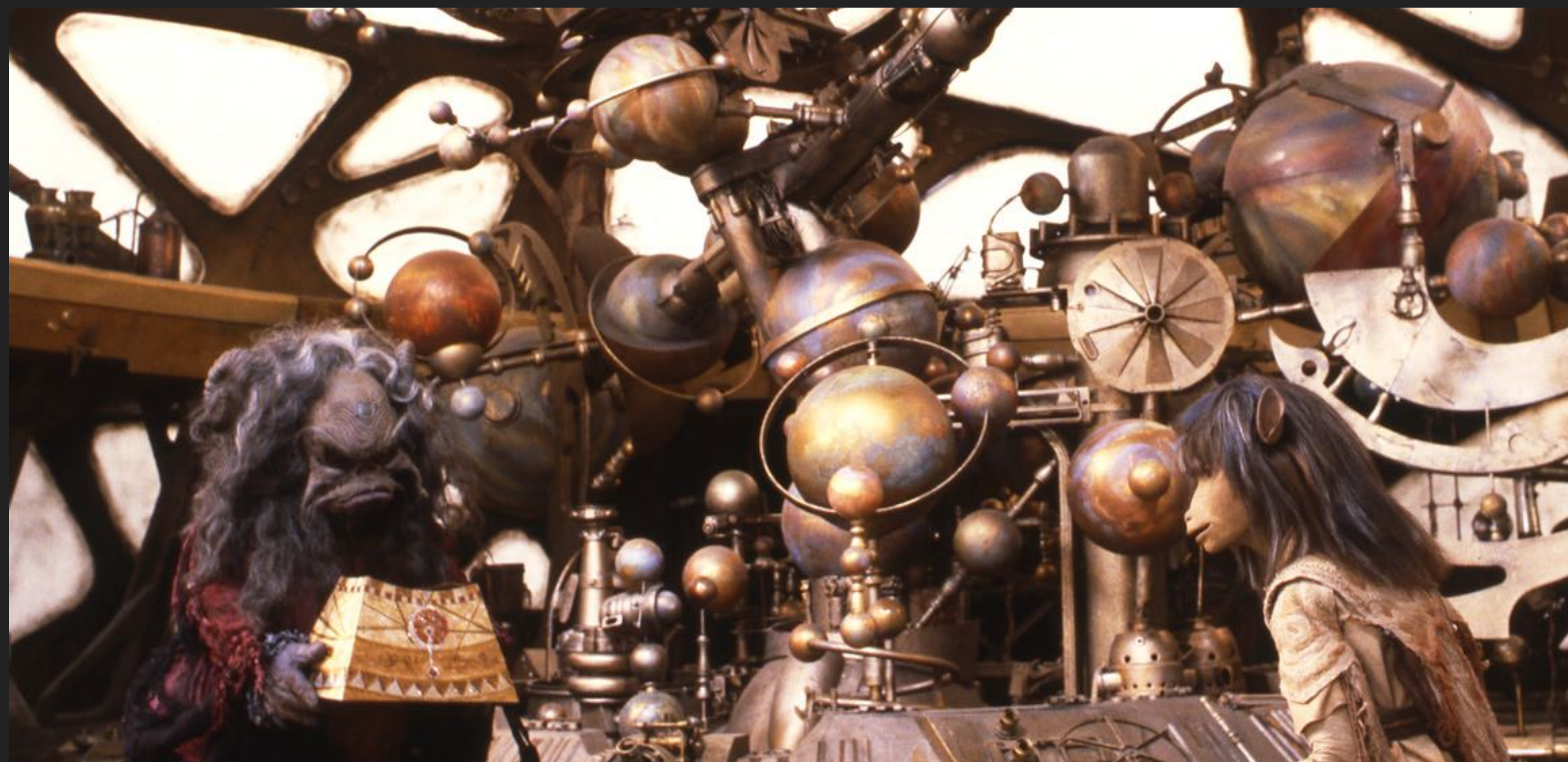
## SU SONG ASTRONOMICAL WATER CLOCK

01094 CE, FIRST ESCAPEMENT

“Thus if the water is made to pour with perfect evenness, then the comparison of the rotary movements (of the heavens and the machine) will show no discrepancy or contradiction; **for the unresting follows the unceasing.**”



**ARMILLARY  
SPHERE MADE  
BY GIROLAMO  
DELLA  
VOLPAIA,  
FLORENCE,  
ITALY, 01554**



# AUGHRA'S ORRERY

Dark Crystal

# ASTRONOMICUM CAESAREUM

Petrus Apianus 1540



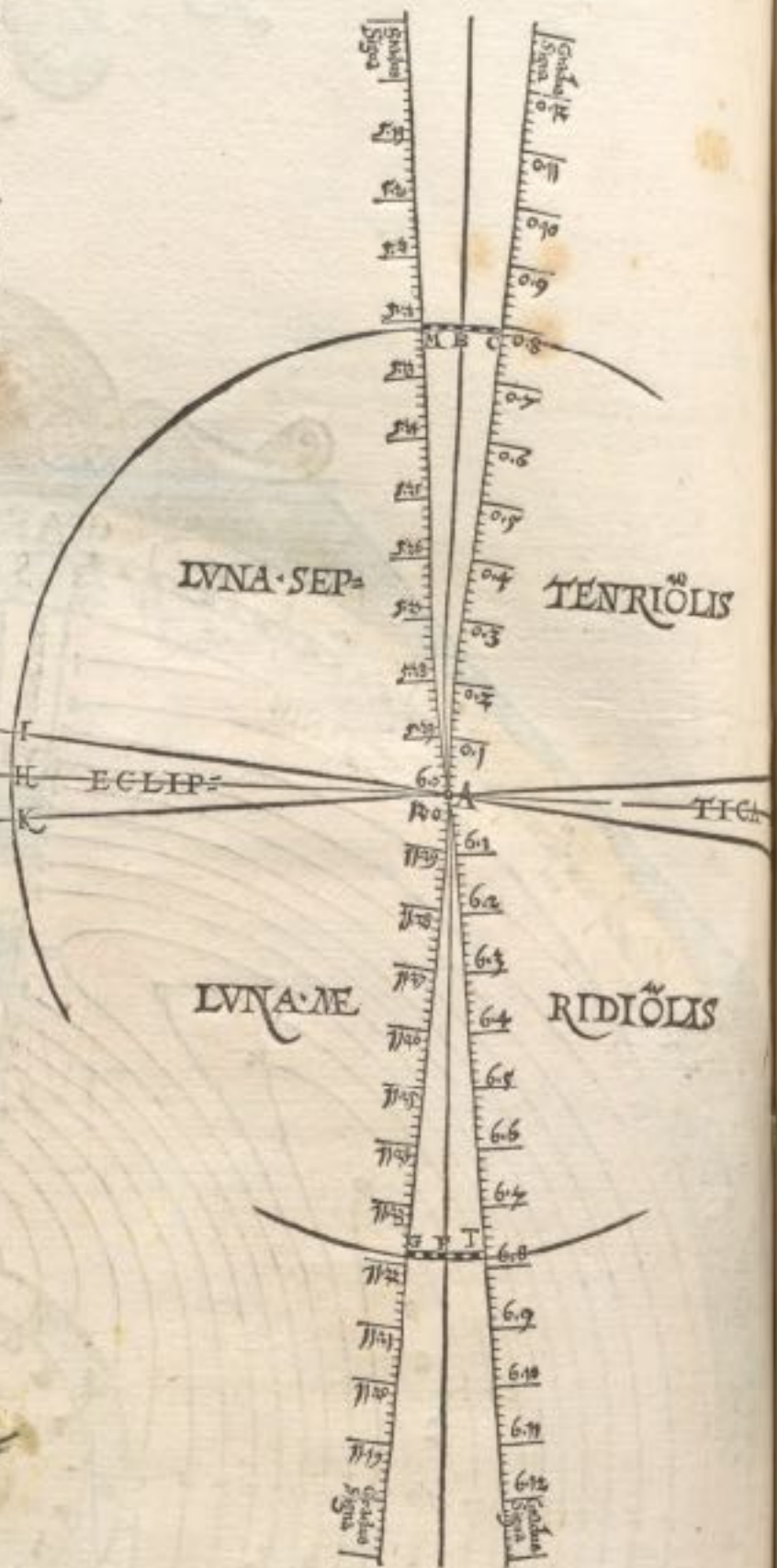
possibilitas, tam Solis quam Lunæ haberi potest, & melius q̄m prior, hoc modo: Vbi indicem capitis draconis rite locaueris, ad tempus scz veræ oppositionis vel coniunctionis, locum quoq; Lunæ in Zodiaco contueberis, per quem filum directū si inter d & a (Luna iuxta caput draconis morante) vel inter g & e (Luna caudæ draconis vicina) ceciderit, futuri aude Lunam in illa oppositione defecturam. Vicissim Solis defectum conspicias in e ne quadā hæc lege. Tempora nis veræ cum filo signa, quod si inter b & c iuxta caput draconis, vel inter f & g iuxta caudam draconis fetatur, contingens est Solis deliquam in hac coniunctione. Verū Solis obscuraciones propter aspectum diuersitates non ita ad ynquem, sine calculandi opera, sicut Lunæ haberi nobis potuerunt, eas tamen, deo volente, in posterum quoq; in instrumenti formam redacturos nos, quo ad licebit, nō diffidimus. Possibilitate eclipsis Lunaris agnita, lineam in plano aliquo præscribe, quam H D nomina, cuius medium A sit. Huic alia perpendicularis inducta B F dicatur. Pedem nunc circini alterum in A litera fige, extensus alter circulum occultum pro Arbitrio scribat, qui idem in linea B F & punctis B F fecetur. Eo facto Lunæ latitudinem considera, quæ si Septentrionalis fuerit, tum oportebit Argumentum eius verum esse 5 Signorum & 18 graduum ad minus, vsq; in 6 Signa etiam, vel Signi nullius, graduumq; 12. Iam si Argumentum sit Signi nullius, diuidatur quarta B D in 18 partes sic, primo in tres, deinde singulas in alias tres, postea quamlibet in duas, & habebis 18 portiones, quarum singulæ 5 gradus continent. Proximo B literæ puncto C ascribe, tectamq; lineam à centro A per C educito. Si vero Argumentum latitudinis Signorum sit 5, tum B H quartam dispelle, primæ autem post B literam sectioni, M literam appone, perq; M & A centrum lineam, vt antea diduc. Quod si meridionalem Lunam conspexeris, Argumentum habens 6 Signorum, & insuper aliquot graduum, tum ab F litera D versus p̄oximum punctum elige, eundem cum T litera signans. Argumento 11 Signorum existente, ab F versus M cum puncto huiusmodi digredere, cui ascribe G. Hac in parte nō mouearis quicquā, si gradus aliquando Signis non adiunctos vides, obseruatis diligenter Signis tanrummodo.

Quomodo eclipsis Lunæ in plano sit formanda.

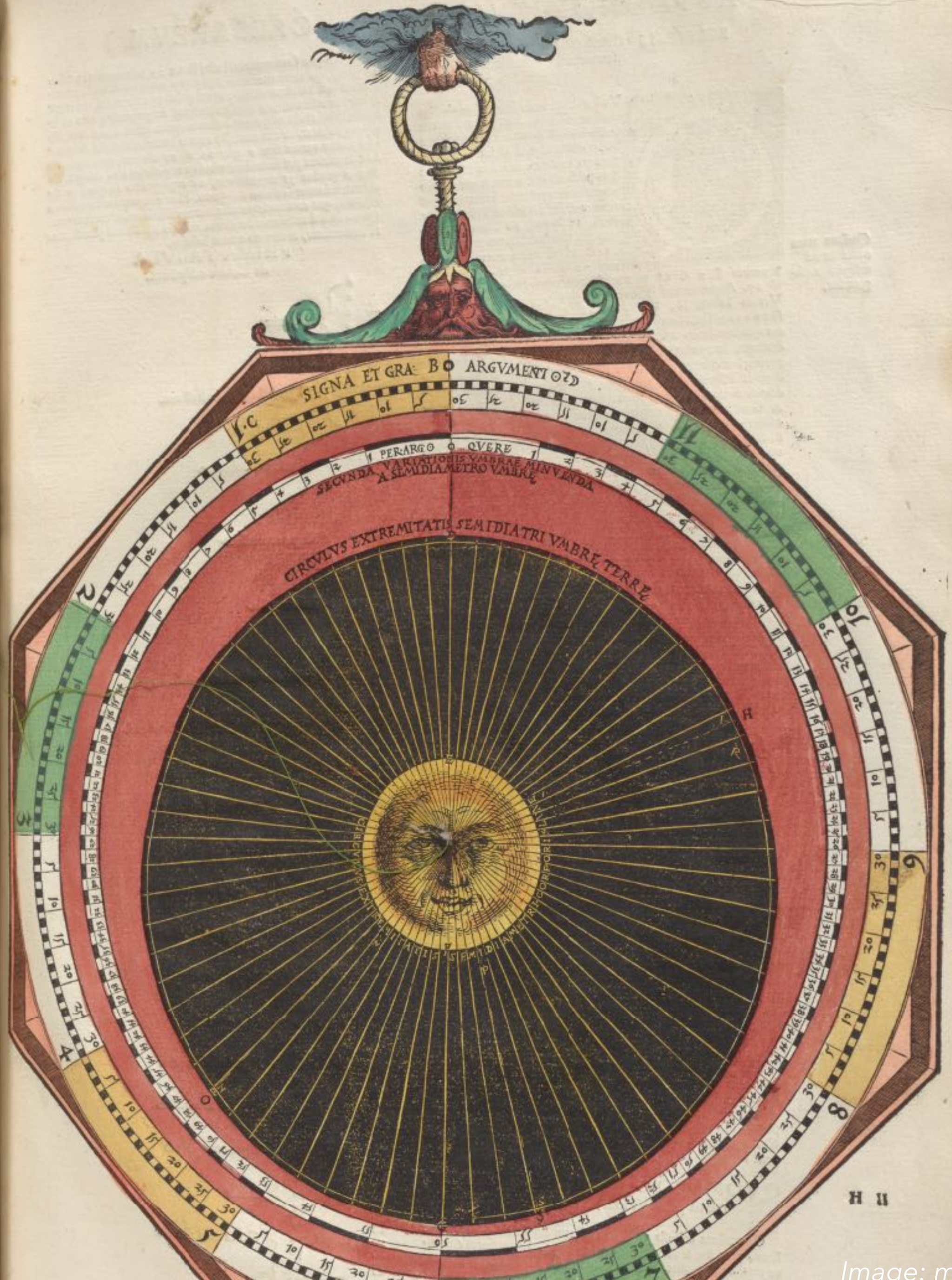
Deinde in limbo exteriori sequentis figuræ, quæ post hac, instrumentum Semidiametrale vocabitur, Solis Argumentum vestigia, cui filum vbi superposueris, nota eiusdem, & limbi interioris (quæ umbrarum varietates per secunda metitur) contactum, secunda vero illa à filo abscissa, seorsum excipe. Argumentum deinde Lunæ perquirens, cum filo pariter transmissio signa, quod filum binas tibi corporis vice Lunæ & umbræ terræ, semidiametros aperit. Filo sic durante, circinum in centro fige, pede altero in punctū vsq; in quo nigrior area à filo tangitur, extenso, illa enim extensio semidiameter corporis Lunæ est, quam ita inuariatam referua. Alium post hac circinum fini prioris diametri iam habiti infige, Pedem alterum eiusdem circini vsq; ad areæ fæcæ terminum protendens, semidiametrum quoq; umbræ terræ habebis. Aream hanc circumferentia quadam eandem circincirca includi vides, vltra quā aliam, calami latitudine, superficiem cernis, quæ in 00 secunda distributa est. Sed cum iam antea secunda varietate umbræ didiceris, pedes

## CAESAREVM

Hæc omnium præfens figura iterat, posterius DISPOSITORIVM dicenda.



des circini pro tot secundorum distantia contrahi debent, & vera umbræ semidiameter habebitur. Talem postea circinum in A plano prius ad hoc præparati, vbi firmaueris, circulumq; describeris, veram umbræ quantitatem cernis, umbræ inquam terræ, quæ in Lunæ transitu, oppositionis illius tempore fit. Mox in instrumento cui nomen dispositorio, Lunæ Argumentum in lineis, siue A C siue A M, siue A G, siue A T sit, contemplantor. Loco oblato pedem circini inferre, extendatq; alterum in argumenti punctum, Eandem postea circini extensionem parato plano infer, pedesq; altero in A fixo, cum altero punctum in linea paulo antea, huic rei deputata, exprime, literaq; M signa. Iam circinum require, extensum, iuxta corporis Lunæ semidiametrum, quem vbi fixeris in M, cumq; eodem circulum describeris, corpus Lunæ te habere putara. Ex illis nunc demum certus esse potes, de contingenti huius oppositionis eclipsis, deq; quantitate eiusdem. Si enim corpus Lunæ totum sub umbram concesserit, vniuersalis, si partim, particularis, in omnino non nulla eclipsis euenit.



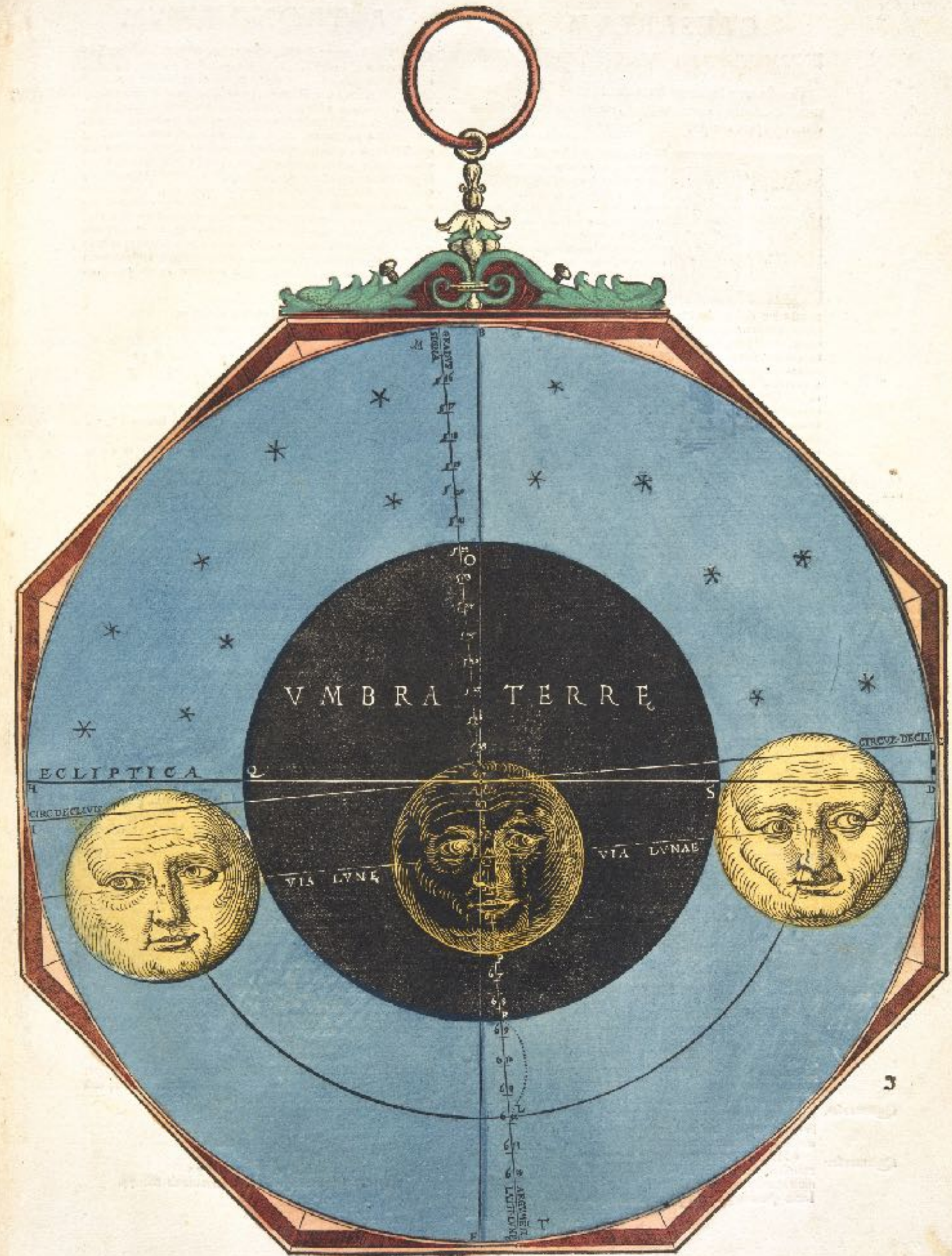
H II

# ASTRONOMICUM CAESAREUM

Petrus Apianus 1540



F III



3

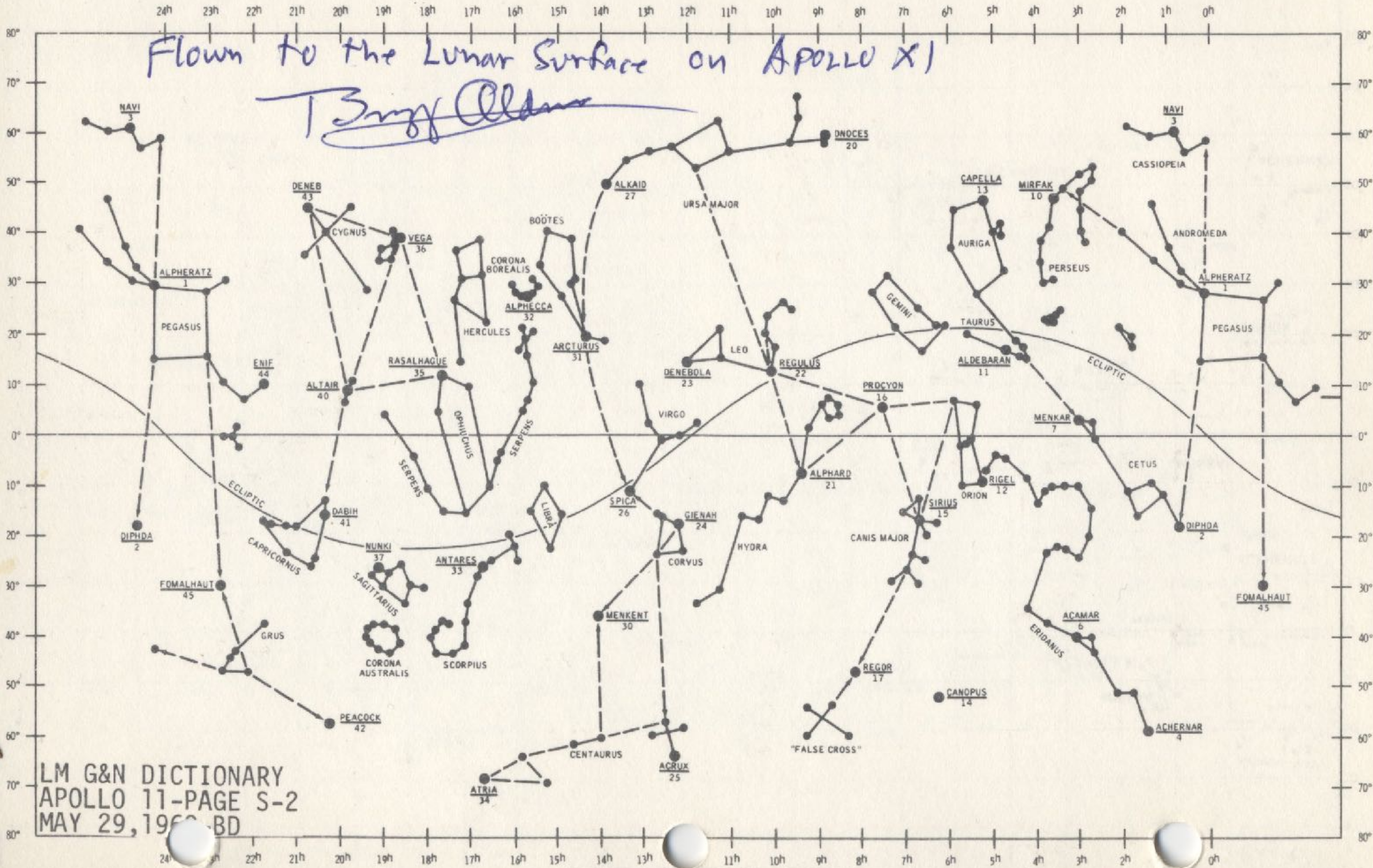
# PLANISPHERIC ASTROLABE

Maker: Muhammad Zaman al-Munajjim al-Asturlabi (active 1643-89)





Flown to the Lunar Surface on Apollo XI  
T. Buzz Aldrin

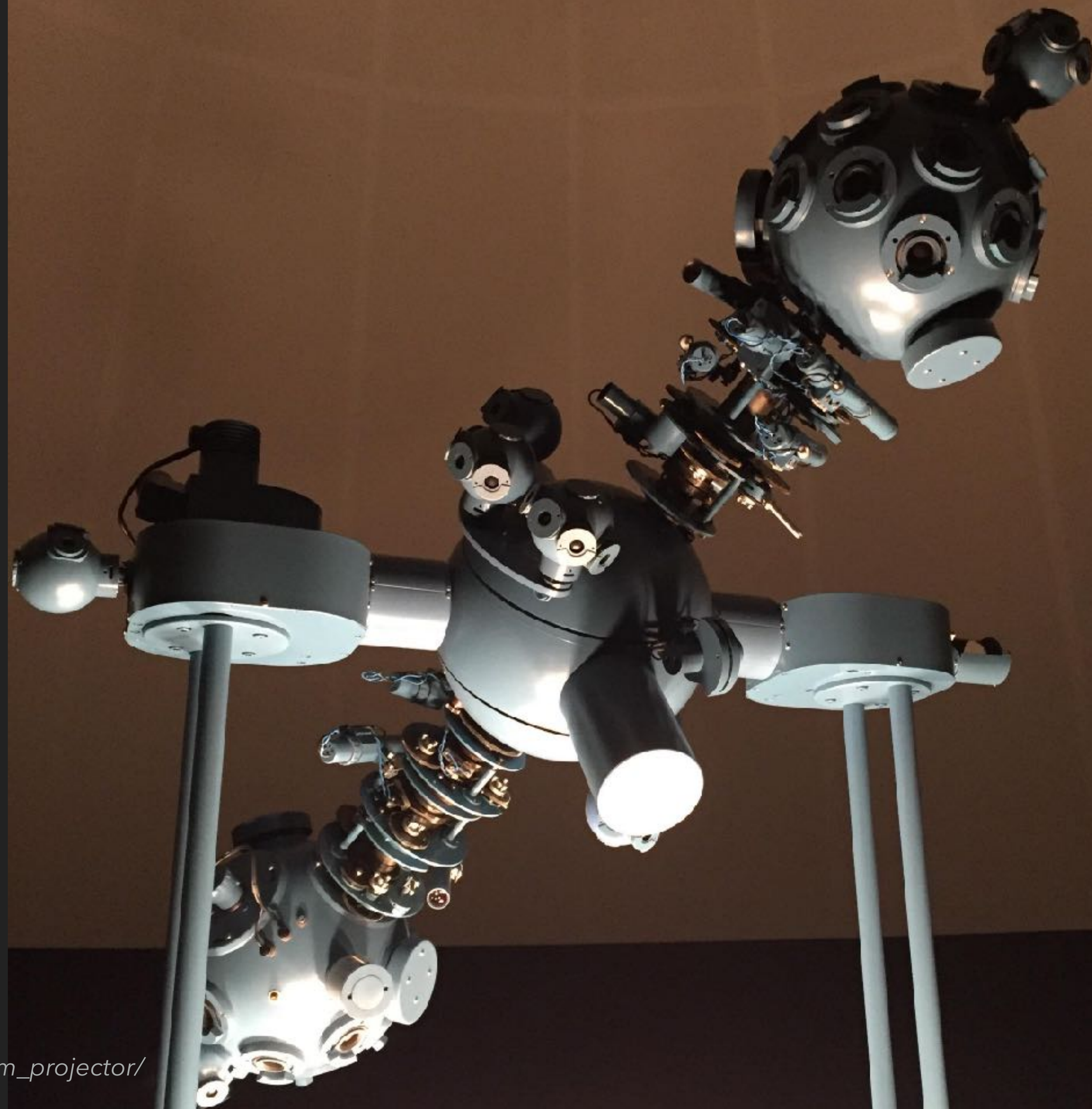


LM G&N DICTIONARY  
APOLLO 11-PAGE S-2  
MAY 29, 1969 BD

# SOYUZ CELESTIAL NAVIGATION GLOBE



# ZEISS STAR PROJECTOR





# HOW BIG IS THE UNIVERSE?

Why do we care? Because time and space are related. Age and size of the universe are related. Reasoning about **where we are** in the universe is related to reasoning about **when we are**.

Also - there's a very cool story about the discovery of a **stellar clock** that unlocked our understanding of the size and age of the universe. Stick around till the end!!

# COMIC DISTANCE LADDER

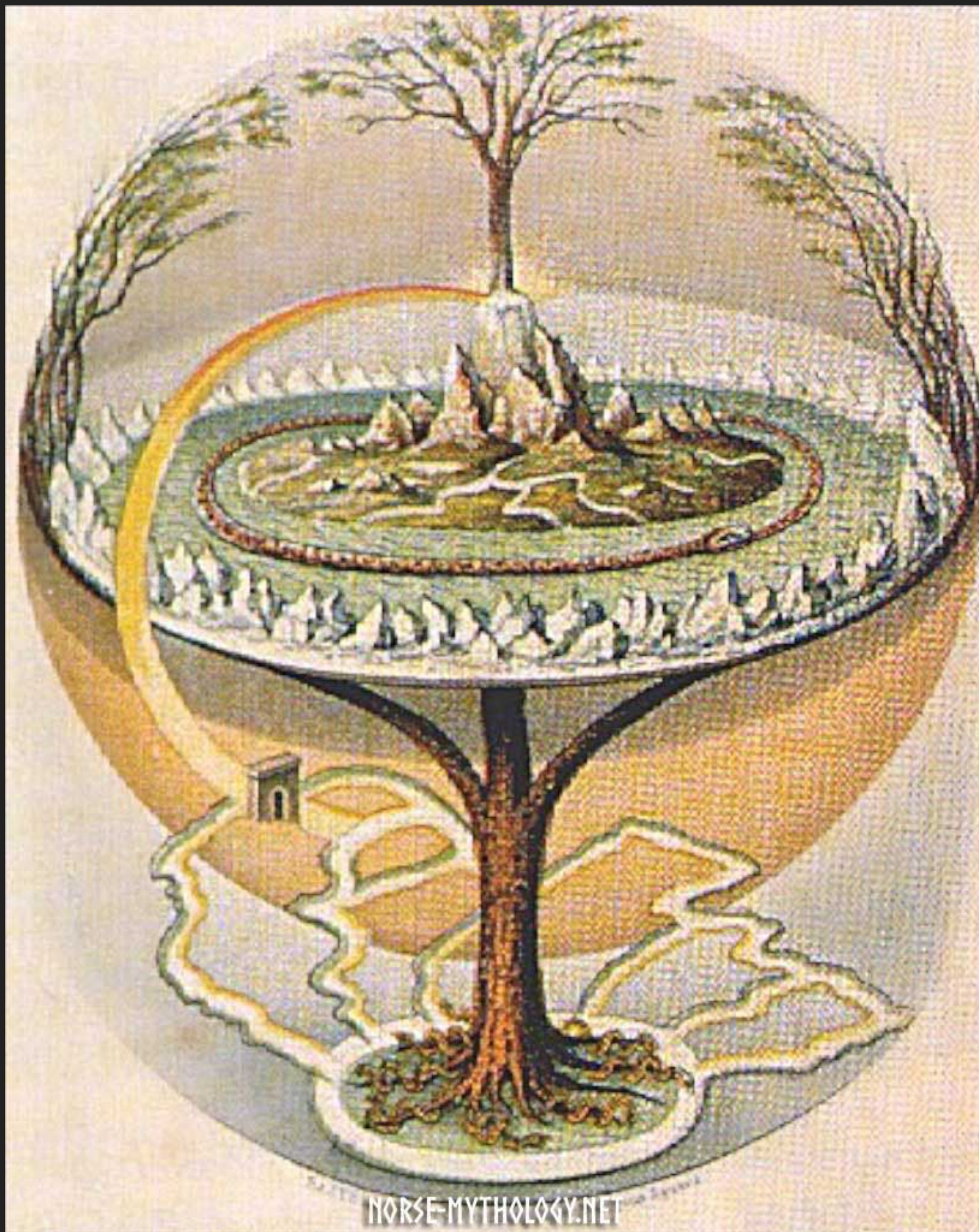
See: Mentalfloss, [The Expanding Universe: How the Universe Got Bigger As We Measured It](#)  
and Terrance Tao (UCLA), [Cosmic Distance Ladder](#)

# GEO METRY

EARTH

MEASURE

# YGGDRASIL THE WORLD TREE NORSE





# PTOLEMAIC MODEL GEOCENTRIC



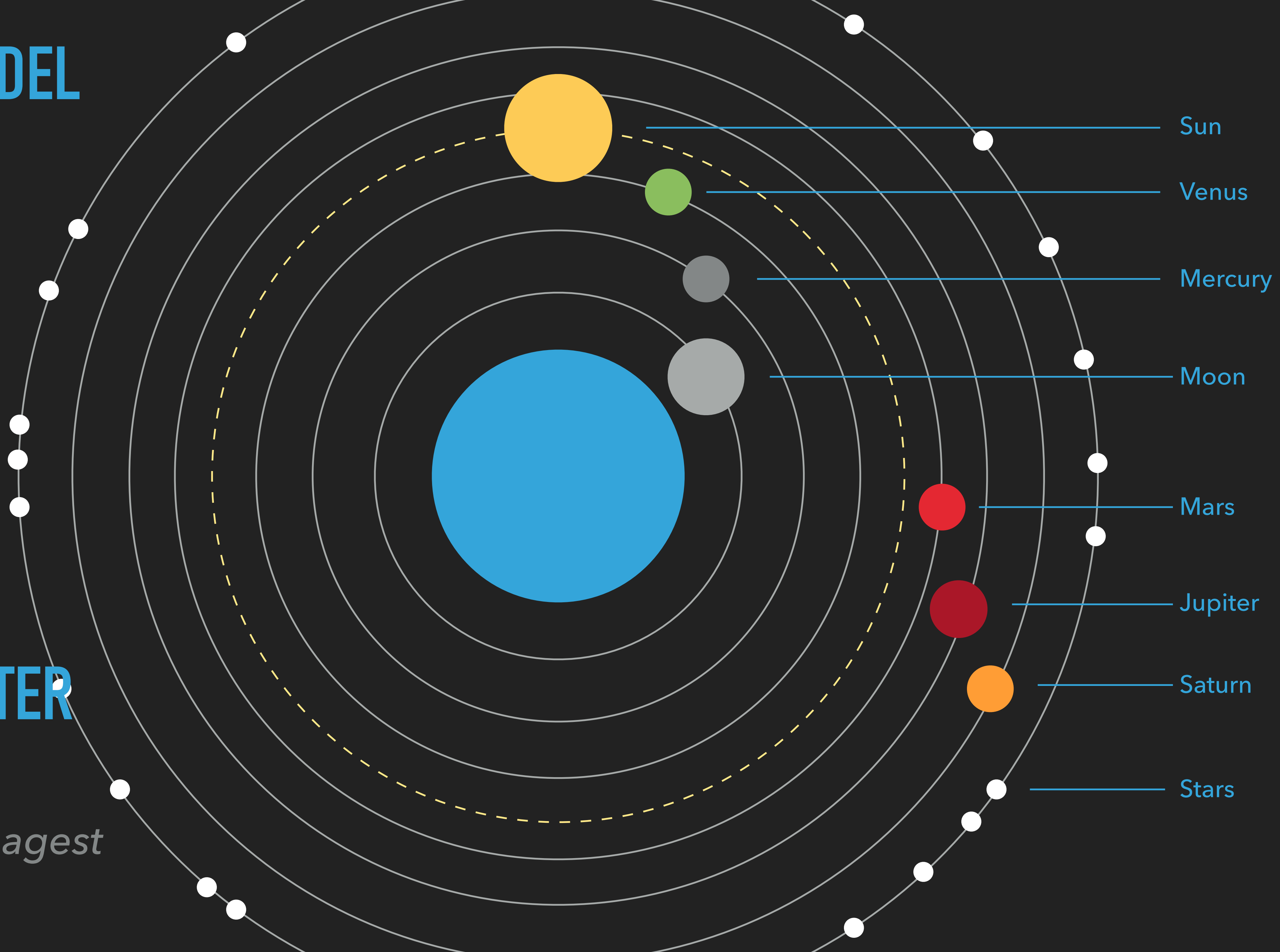
WE'RE THE CENTER  
OF EVERYTHING

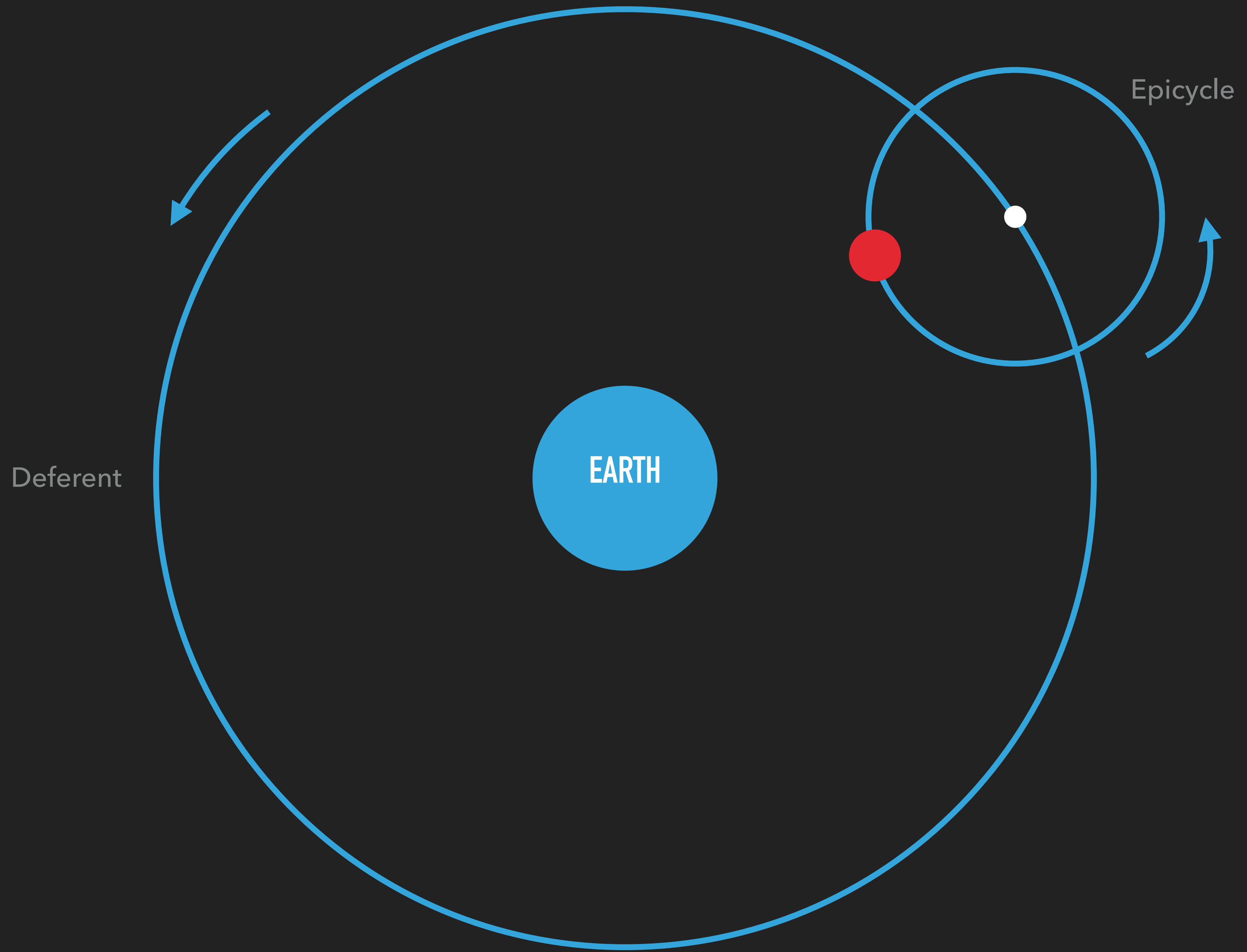
*Detailed in the Almagest*  
~150BC

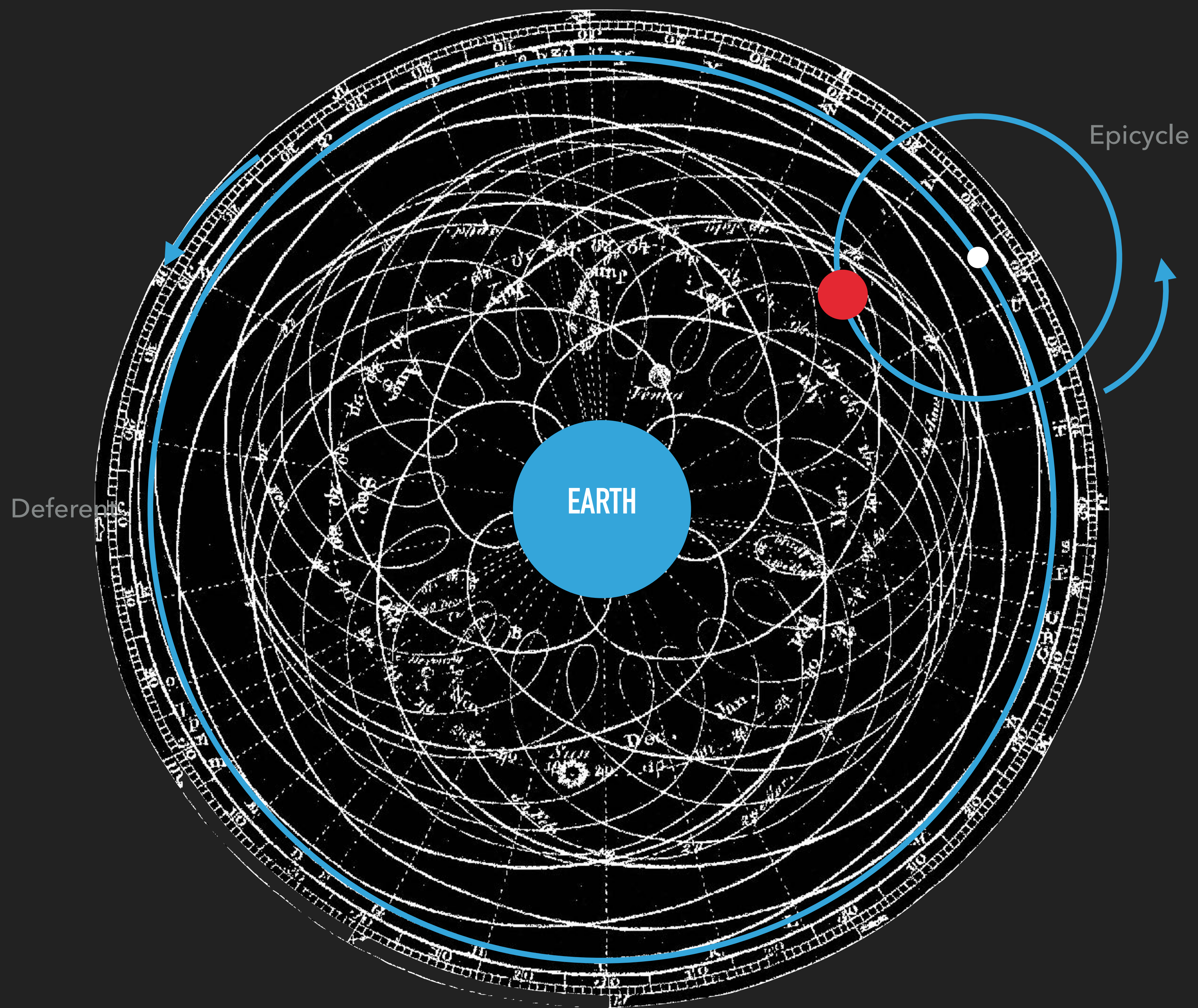
# PTOLEMAIC MODEL GEOCENTRIC

**WE'RE THE CENTER  
OF EVERYTHING**

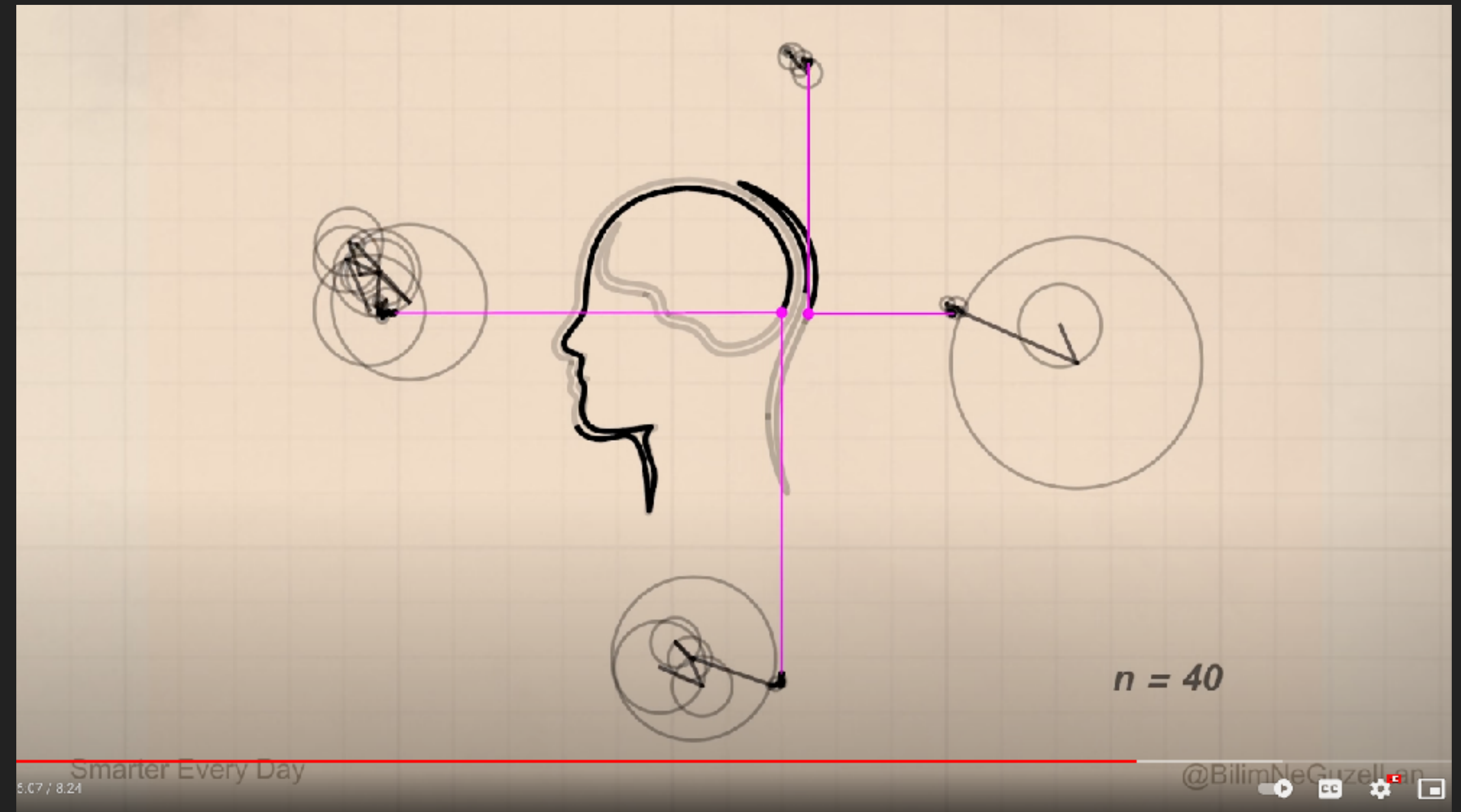
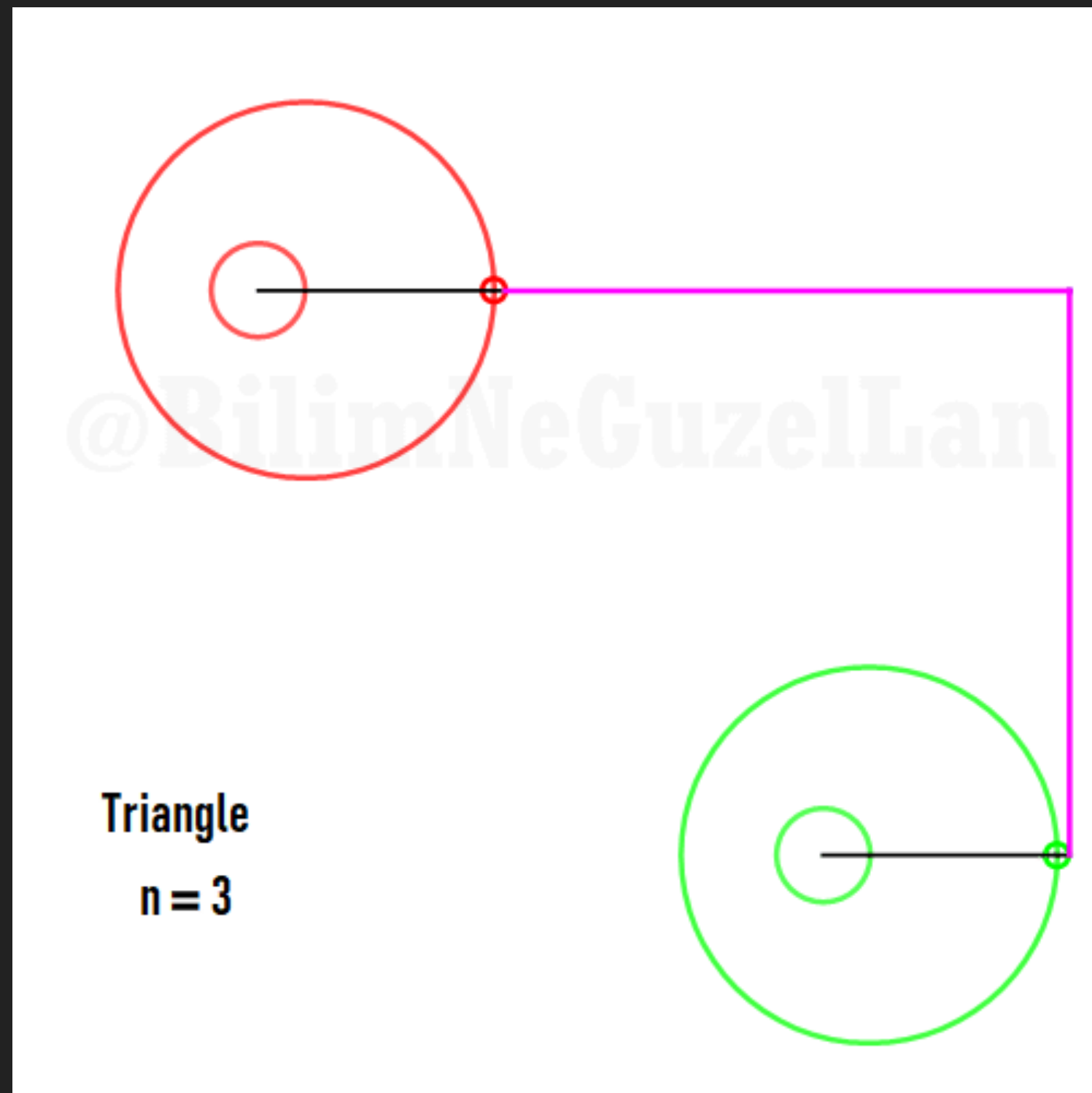
*Detailed in the Almagest  
~150BC*







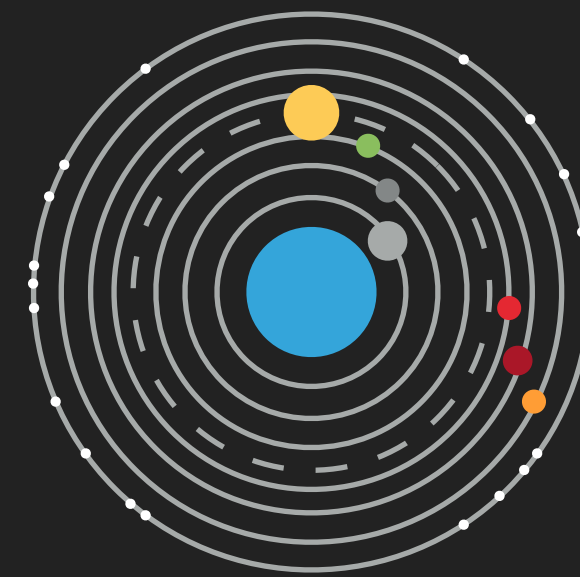
# (ASIDE)



Aside aside: Any shape can be drawn by the composition of the right circles at the right rates. This is a visual equivalent of **Fourier Analysis**, which breaks down a signal (**time domain**) into an infinite sum of pure sine waves of different frequencies (**frequency domain**).

# “PTOLEMY'S UNIVERSE WOULD FIT WITHIN THE ORBIT OF EARTH”

-Calli Arcale, for MentalFloss



# ARISTARCHUS OF SAMOS

Heliocentric model, **300BC**

# HIPPARCHUS OF NICAEA

Precession of the equinoxes, **150BC**



## YU XI (虞喜)

"In **336 AD** Yu Xi wrote the *An Tian Lun* (安天論; *Discussion of Whether the Heavens Are At Rest or Disquisition on the Conformation of the Heavens*). He observed that the position of the sun during the winter solstice had drifted roughly one degree over the course of fifty years relative to the position of the stars."

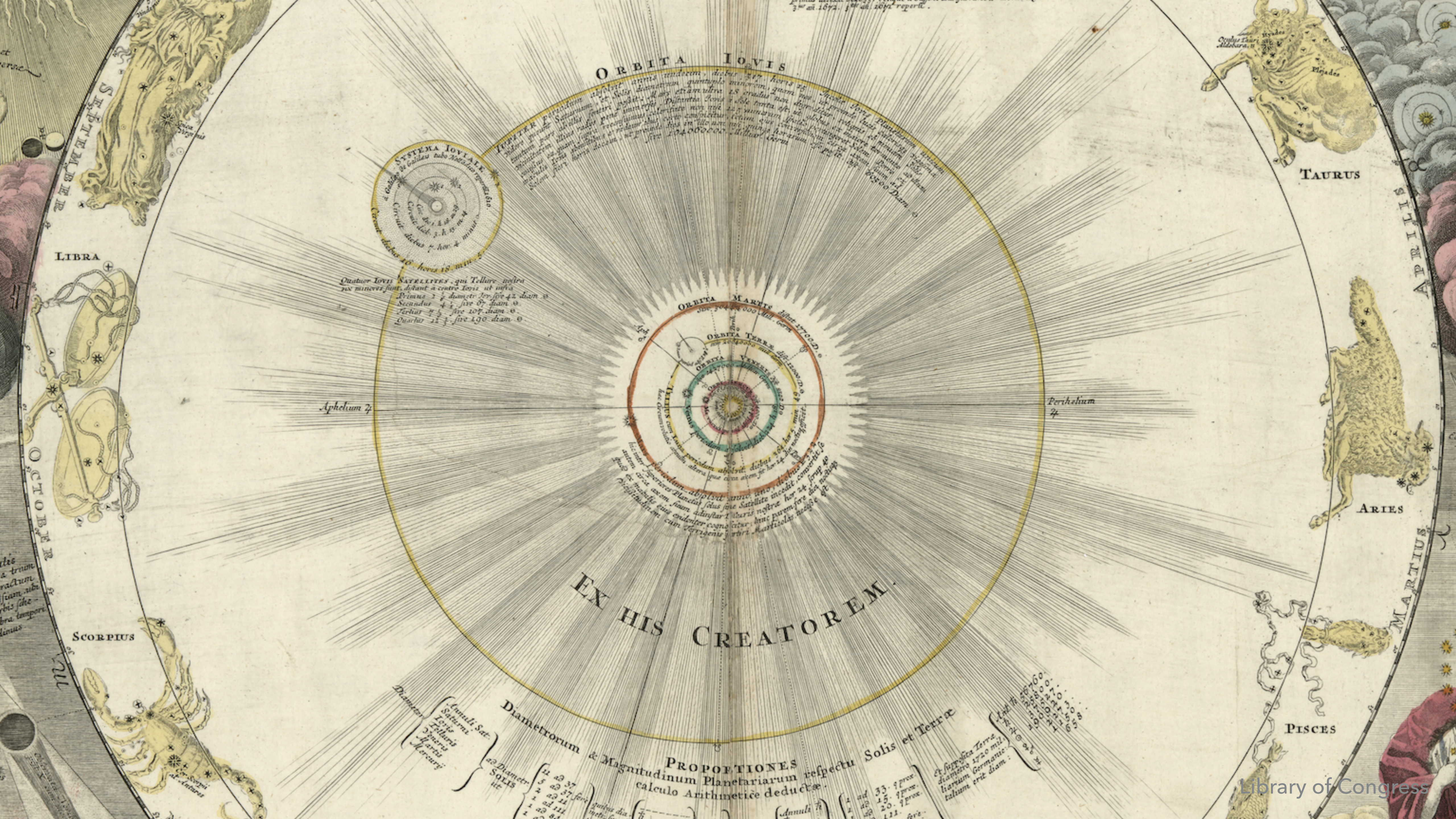
-Wikipedia

## MARAGHA ASTRONOMERS

"The Maragha school of astronomy in Ilkhanid-era Persia further developed 'non-Ptolemaic' planetary models involving Earth's rotation. Notable astronomers of this school are Al-Urdi (d. **1266**) Al-Katibi (d. 1277), and Al-Tusi (d. 1274)."

-Wikipedia





### ORBITA IOVIS



*IPSE PERIODUM abfolvit annis undecim, diebus 397. horis 25. 1/2. Iovis Jovis Planetam circumferens, quatuor satellites minores, quam nos, in praedicta sua orbita circumferens, quatuor satellites minores, quam nos, in praedicta sua orbita circumferens, quatuor satellites minores, quam nos, in praedicta sua orbita circumferens...*

Quatuor Iovis SATELLITES, qui Tellure noscos  
sive minores sunt, distant a centro Iovis ut infra  
Primus 1 1/2 diametri Iovis sive 42 diam. ☉  
Secundus 4 1/2 sive 87 diam. ☉  
Tertius 7 1/2 sive 127 diam. ☉  
Quartus 21 1/2 sive 390 diam. ☉

### ORBITA MARTIS



*ORBITA TERRAE*  
*ORBITA VENUS*  
*ORBITA MERCURII*  
*ORBITA SATURNI*

## EX HIS CREATOREM.

**PROPORTIONES**  
Diametrorum & Magnitudinum Planetarum respectu Solis et Terrae  
calculo Arithmetice deductae.

Annuli Sat.	Saturni	11 ad 37	1/2
Iovis	Jovis	5 ad 37 sive	1/7
Telluris	Telluris	2 ad 11	1/5
Martis	Martis	1 ad 11	1/11
Mercurii	Mercurii	1 ad 28	1/28

et supposita Terra  
diametro 1720 mil.  
liarum Germanic.  
talem erit diam.



TAURUS



ARIES



PISCES

LIBRA  
OCTOBER

SCORPIUS

MARTIUS  
APRILIS

# COPERNICAN MODEL

THE SUN IS THE CENTER, BUT  
WE'RE STILL PRETTY SPECIAL

Detailed in *On the Revolutions of the Celestial Spheres*  
1543CE



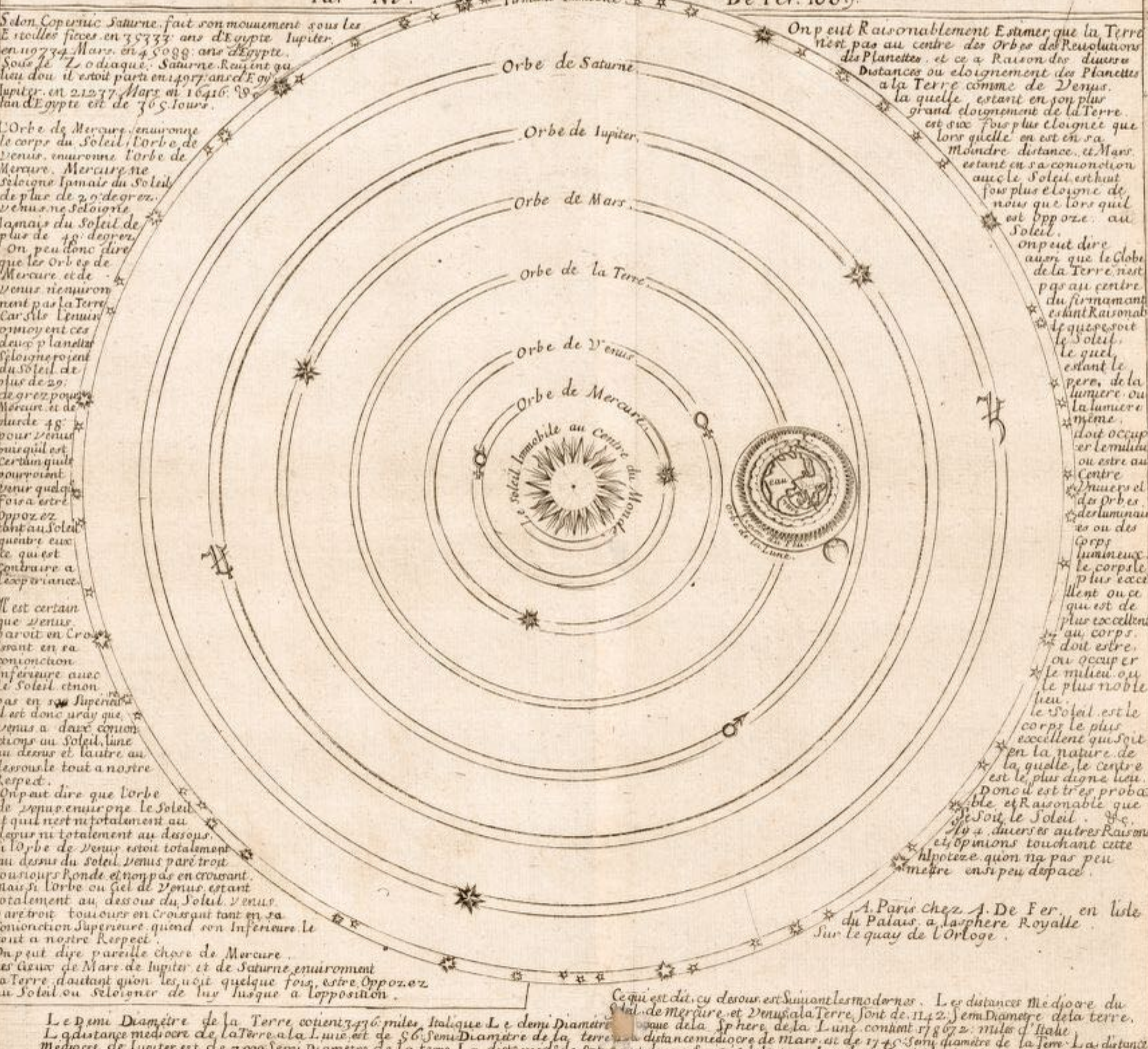
**LORDRE DES SPHERES CELESTES SELON  
PTOLOMEE QUI VEUT QUE LA TERRE  
SOIT IMMOBILE ET**  
Par Ni.

**PTOLOMEE QUI VEUT QUE LA TERRE  
AVANT CENTRE DV MONDE**  
De Fer. 1669.

**LORDRE DES SPHERES CELESTES SELON COPERNIC QUI TIENT QUE LA  
TERRE EST MOBILE ET LE SOLEIL IMMOBILE AV CENTRE DV MONDE**  
Par Ni.  
De Fer. 1669.



La Terre a 10000 lieux françois de Tour  
son Diametre sera trouue par la proposition  
d'Archimede. ce qui a demontre par  
dus d'ailleurs que l'euennent toutes  
a Vne. excepte celles sont plus  
precises aux plus grands nombres  
quaux moindres Exemple  
Le Diametre estant 1. la  
Circouferance sera peu  
moindre que  $3\frac{1}{2}$  et plus  
grande que  $3\frac{1}{4}$   
La Circouferance estant  
31415.9 le Diametre  
sera 10000  
Ludolfe de Colog  
a Demontre que  
le Diametre estant  
1000000000000000  
la Circouferance  
est moindre que  
3141592653589793  
mais plus gr  
onde que  
3141592653589793  
ly a marie  
doutrepro  
portions  
de quelle  
on se poua  
seruir pour  
trouuer la  
Circouferance  
de la Terre  
et au Contr  
aire &c.  
siquoy on  
poua trouuer  
les distans qui  
sont entre le  
Centre de la terre  
et les superficies  
tant concave que  
convexe des Orbes  
Celestes et par Conseq  
uant les epereurs de  
Arcs qui selon l'armelle  
Autre sont comme il suit  
Le semidiametre concave  
du Ciel de la Lune est de  
 $23\frac{1}{4}$  dans le diametre terrestre.  
Le semidiametre concave dudit  
de la lune ou concave de mercure  
est de  $6\frac{1}{2}$  dans le diametre terrestre.  
Le semidiametre concave de mercure et com  
me de Venus est de  $12\frac{1}{2}$  de la terre. Le semid  
Diametre concave du Soleil et concave de Mars est de  
 $121\frac{1}{2}$  de la terre. Le semidiametre concave de Mars a concave  
de Jupiter est de  $1437\frac{1}{2}$  de la terre. Le semidiametre concave  
de Jupiter et concave de Saturne est de  $1437\frac{1}{2}$  de la terre. Le semidiametre concave  
de Saturne ou concave du firmament est de  $22612\frac{1}{2}$  de la terre. semidiametre concave du  
firmament est de  $4223\frac{1}{2}$  de la terre.



Les Babiloniens ou Chaldeeux qui sont les pre  
mier Astronomes. ont appelle les sept  
Planetes des noms de leurs Dieux. et  
de puis les Egiphtiens les ont marque  
es de ces caractères. H. Saturne.  
I. Jupiter. S. Mars. L. le Soleil.  
V. Venus. M. Mercure. C. la Lune.  
Les quelles marques ou Caractères  
sejoignent encore en Voyage.  
On ne fait estat de la terre  
que comme un point a  
cette a comparation  
du firmament du Ciel  
de Saturne. de Jupiter  
et de Mars.  
mais elle a  
quelque proporti  
on si on la com  
pare a  
celle du soleil  
de Venus de  
mercure ou  
de la lune  
qu'on  
vraiment  
dit abbre  
viee Reio  
du feu a  
fin d'allu  
mer ces  
Imprimés  
du feu que  
nous voya  
nt en la pre  
miere Regi  
de l'air. mais  
cette opinion  
n'est pas receu  
L'Astronomes  
modernes sont d'au  
tre avis en  
d'avis divers. Et opinio  
ns touchant le centre  
du monde et le mou  
vement de ces corps Celestes.  
quelques uns mettent la  
terre au centre de la lune.  
tant que le soleil avec toutes les estoilles  
tant fixes que errantes tourne autou  
r d'elle. Les autres estiment que le  
Soleil se repose au centre du monde.  
et que la terre et les autres planetes font leur  
Revolutions a l'entour d'iceluy. Mais que la sphere  
des Estoilles fixes demoure immobile. Ptolomee  
et ses Sectateurs ont embrassez la premiere opinion  
La seconde ne laisse de estre plus ancienne. Comme il ce peut  
voir par le témoignage que luy rendent les Anciens Astronomes.  
Encore qu'ils presentent une sentinelle aucune description. Insi que dans  
l'ancien par le nombre des siecles. Mais Nicolas Copernicus homme du tout incompar  
able a Raisie en lumiere il y a environ cent ans. cette opinion ou ne sont semblable toutes  
sant la disposition du monde. Comme on peut voir a la suite qui acompagne celle ci.

On peut Reasonablement Estimer que la Terre  
n'est pas au centre des Orbes des Resolutions  
des Planetes. et ce a Reason des diuerses  
Distances ou eloynement des Planetes  
a la Terre comme de Venus.  
la quelle estant en son plus  
grand eloynement de la Terre  
est six fois plus eloynee que  
lors qu'elle en est en sa  
Moindre distance. et Mars  
estant en sa conuonction  
avec le Soleil est huit  
fois plus eloyne de  
nous que lors qu'il  
est oppoze au  
Soleil.  
on peut dire  
aussy que le Globe  
de la Terre n'est  
pas au centre  
du firmament  
estant Reasonab  
le que soit  
le Soleil.  
lequel  
estant le  
pere. de la  
lumiere. ou  
la lumiere  
meme  
doit occu  
per le milieu  
ou estre au  
Centre  
des Orbes  
des lumiere  
es ou des  
corps  
lumineux.  
Le corps le  
plus excel  
lent ou ce  
qui est de  
plus excellent  
au corps  
doit estre  
ou occuper  
le milieu ou  
le plus noble  
lieu.  
le Soleil est le  
corps le plus  
excellent qui soit  
en la nature de  
la quelle le centre  
est le plus digne lieu.  
donc il est tres proba  
ble et Reasonable que  
le Soleil.  
Ay a diuerses autres Reason  
s et opinions touchant cette  
hypotheze qu'on ne pas peu  
mettre en si peu de space.

A Paris chez A. De Fer. en liste  
du Palais a la sphere Royale  
Sur le quay de l'Orloge.

On peut dire que l'Orbe  
de Venus entoure le Soleil  
et qu'il n'est ni totalement au  
dessus ni totalement au dessous.  
Si l'Orbe de Venus estoit totalement  
au dessus du soleil Venus paroit  
tousiours Ronde et non pas en creuant.  
Mais si l'Orbe ou Ciel de Venus estant  
totalement au dessus du Soleil Venus  
paroit tousiours en Croissant tant en sa  
Conuonction Superieure qu'on Inferieure. Le  
tout a nostre Respect.

On peut dire pareille chose de Mercure  
et de Mars de Jupiter. et de Saturne entourent  
la Terre d'autant qu'on ne voit quelque fois. estre Oppozes  
au Soleil ou Seloigner de luy jusque a l'opposition.

Ce qui est dit cy dessus est suiuant les modernes. Les distances Mediore du  
Soleil de mercure. et Venus a la Terre. sont de 1142. Semidiametre de la terre.  
L' distance Mediore de la Terre a la Lune est de 36 Semidiametre de la terre. L' distance Mediore  
de la Sphere de la Lune est de 1772. Semidiametre de la terre. L' distance Mediore de la Terre  
a Jupiter est de 3990 Semidiametre de la terre. L' distance Mediore de la Terre a Saturne est de 10000 Semidiametre de la terre. L' distance Mediore de la Terre  
a Saturne est de 10000 Semidiametre de la terre. L' distance Mediore de la Terre a Saturne est de 10000 Semidiametre de la terre. L' distance Mediore de la Terre a Saturne est de 10000 Semidiametre de la terre.

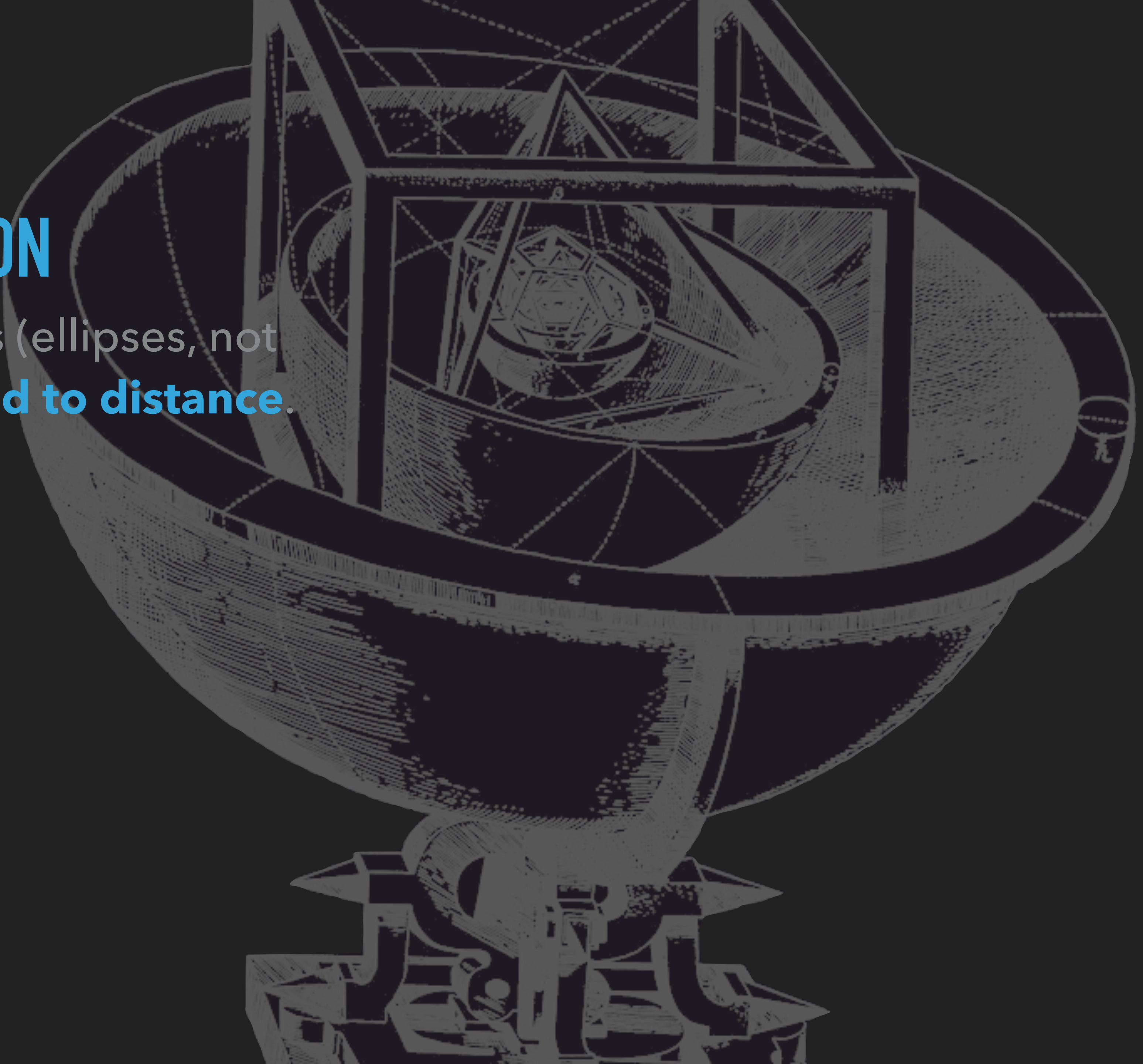
KEPLER

1609

## LAWS OF PLANETARY MOTION

These set the true shape of orbits (ellipses, not circles) and **related orbital period to distance**.

*Detailed in Astronomia nova*  
1609CE



**GALILEO**

**1610-1615**

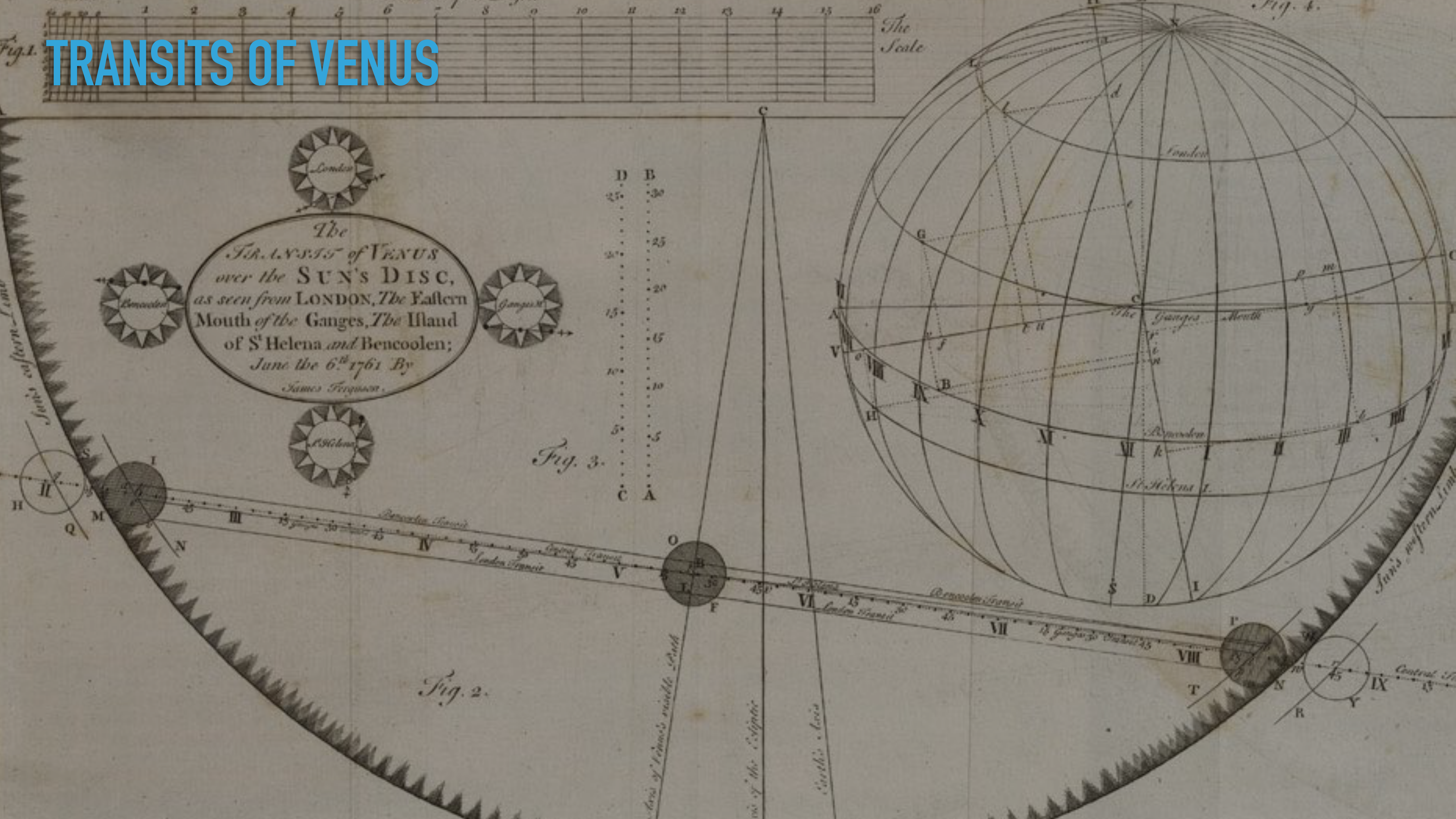
**GANYMEDE, CALLISTO, IO, EUROPA**

**SUNSPOTS**

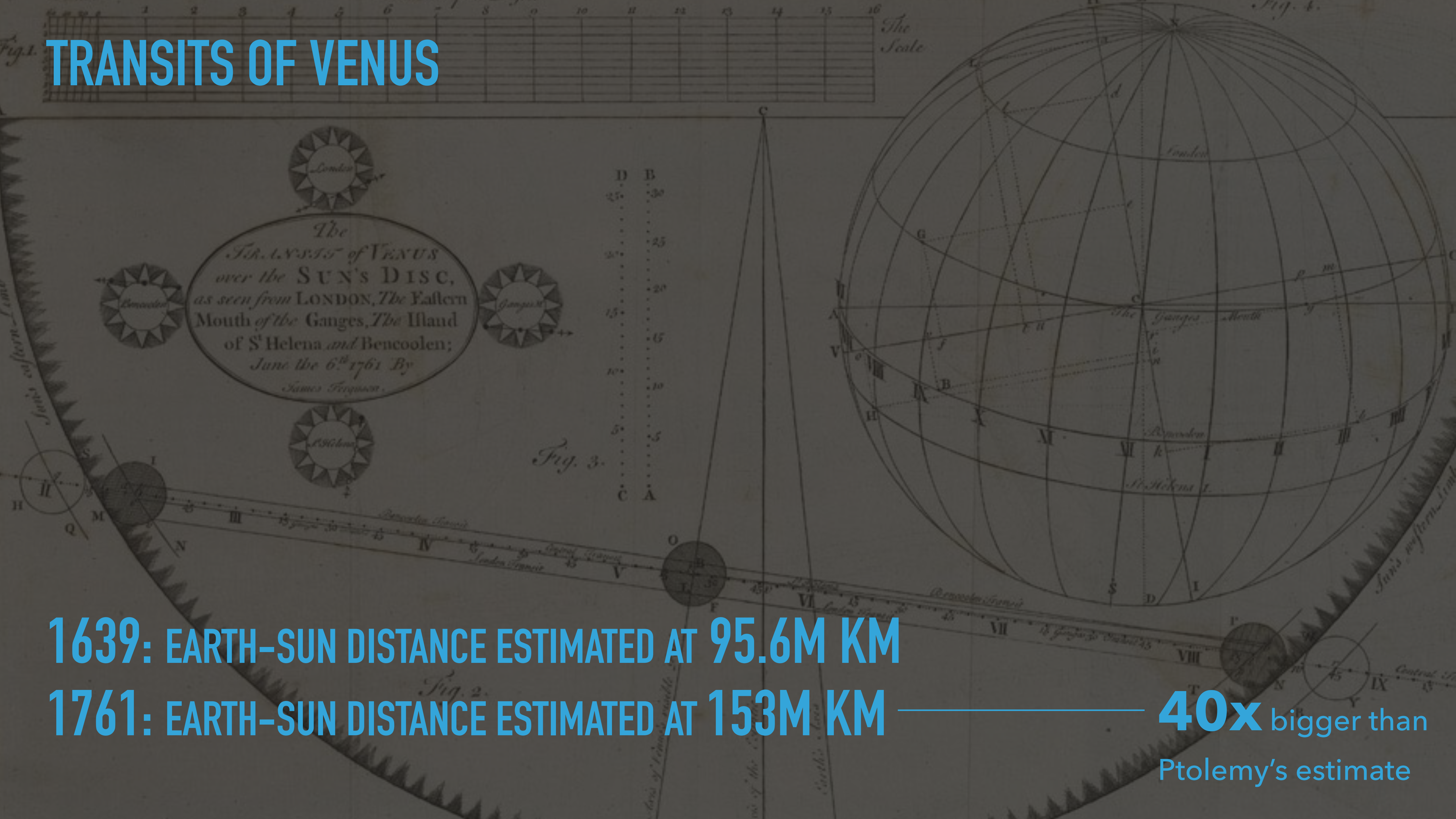
**THE SUN IS THE CENTER, AND  
WE'RE LESS SPECIAL**

Other planets have moons, and  
the sun itself rotates

# TRANSITS OF VENUS



# TRANSITS OF VENUS



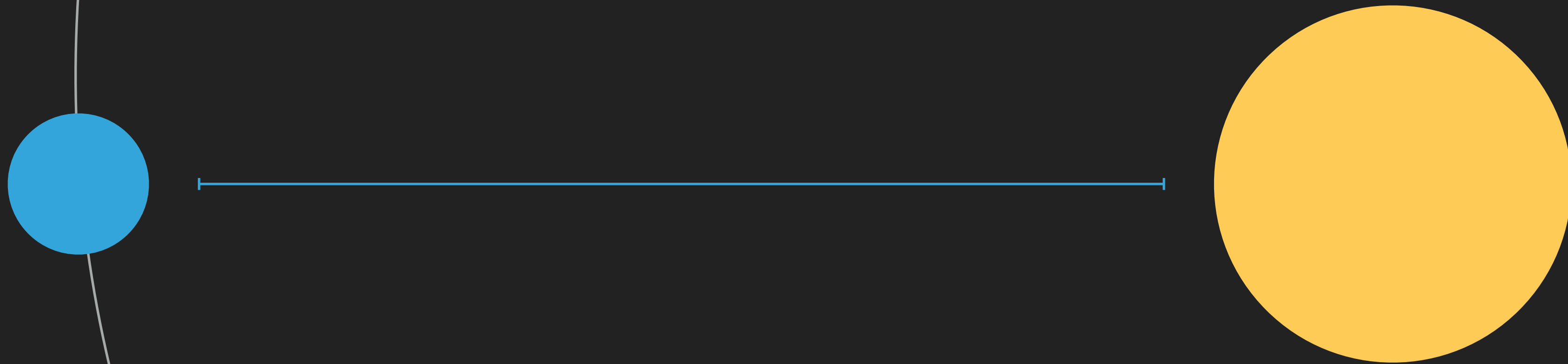
1639: EARTH-SUN DISTANCE ESTIMATED AT 95.6M KM

1761: EARTH-SUN DISTANCE ESTIMATED AT 153M KM

40x bigger than Ptolemy's estimate

**149,597,900 KM**

**ASTRONOMICAL UNIT (AU)  
MODERN VALUE**





**1600s – TITAN AND OTHER MOONS OF SATURN**

**1700s – MORE PLANETS (URANUS) MORE MOONS (OR URANUS, SATURN)**

**1800s – CERES, NEPTUNE, THE MOONS OF MARS (PHOBOS AND DEIMOS)**

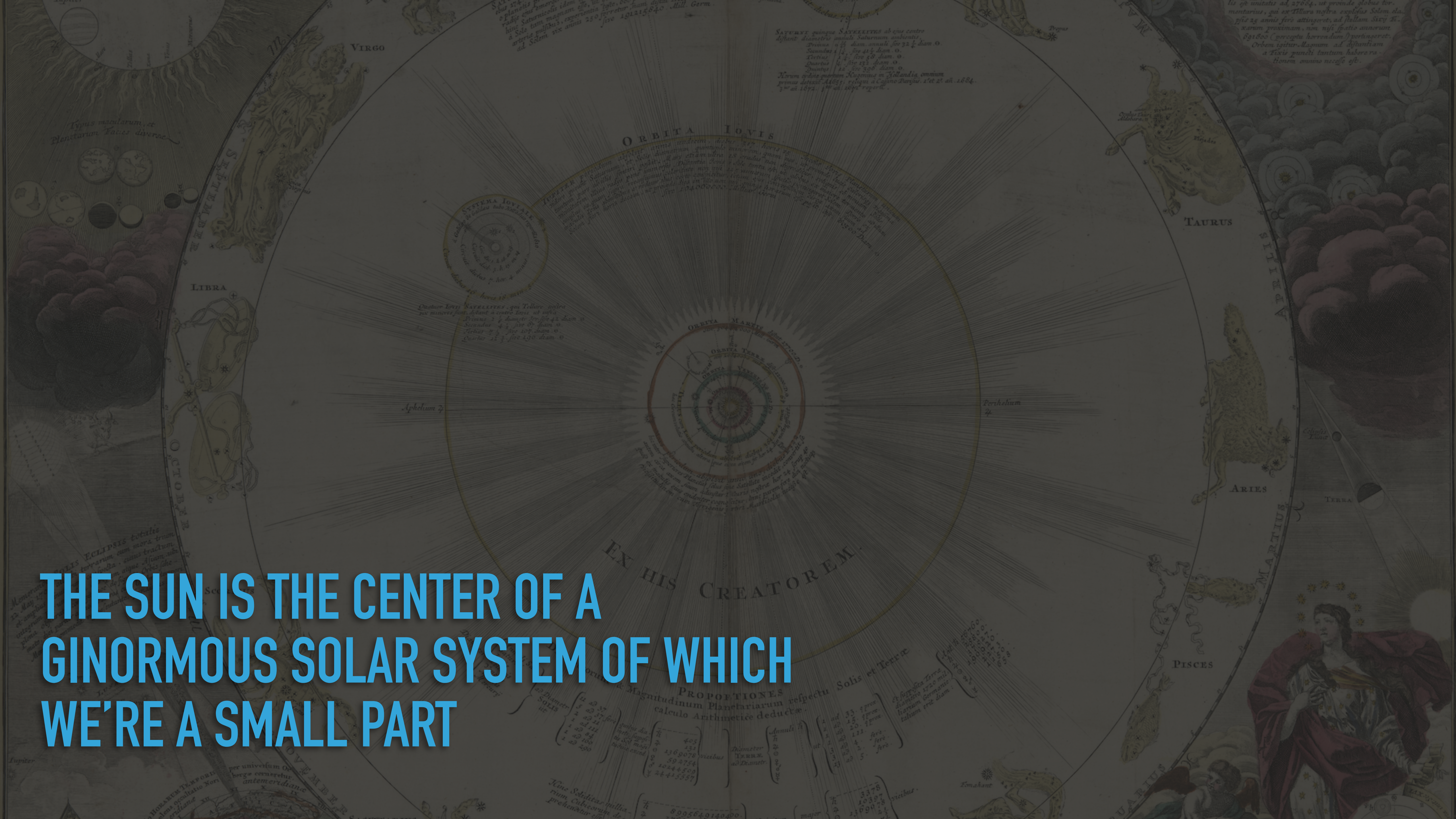
**RØMER**

**1676**

**FINITE SPEED OF LIGHT**

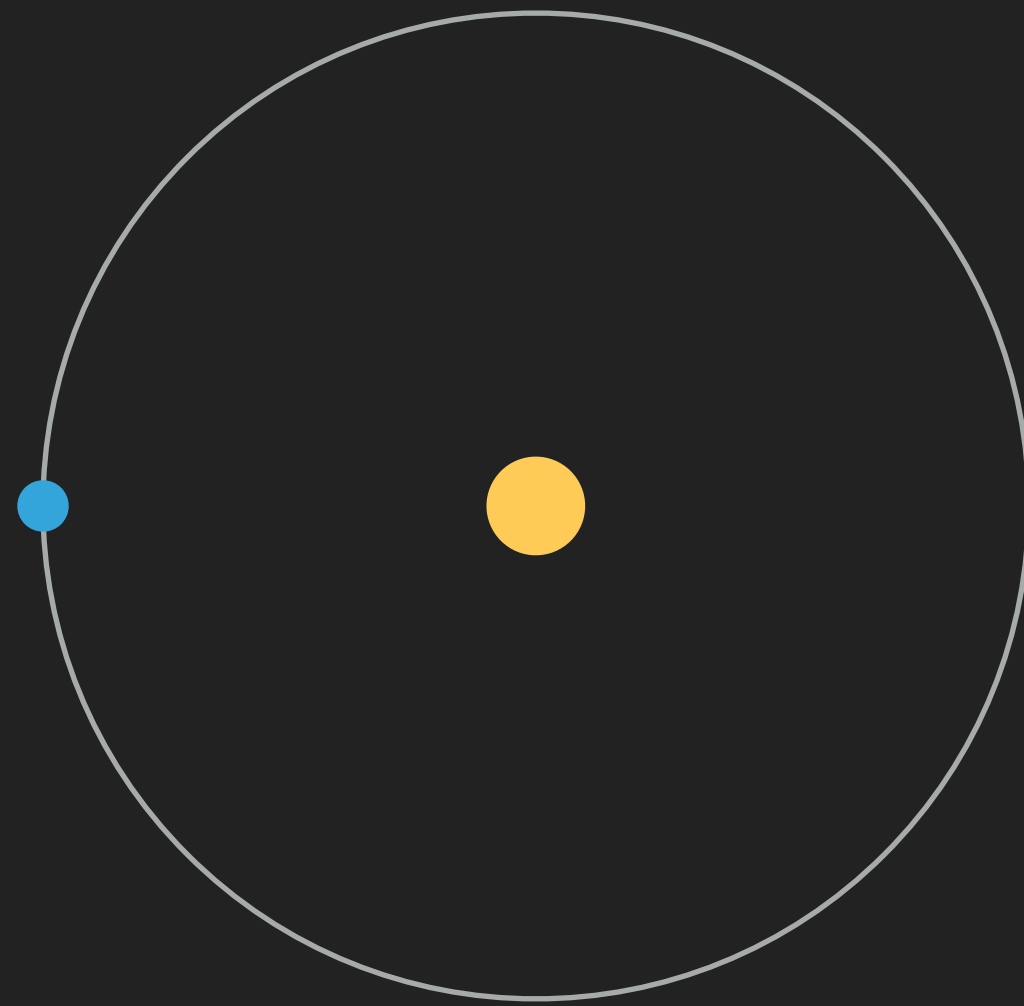


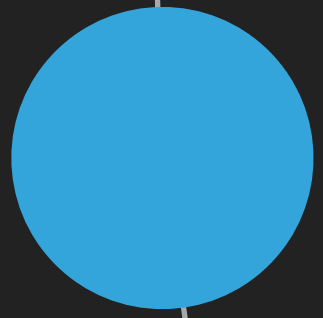
THE SUN IS THE CENTER OF A  
GINORMOUS SOLAR SYSTEM OF WHICH  
WE'RE A SMALL PART

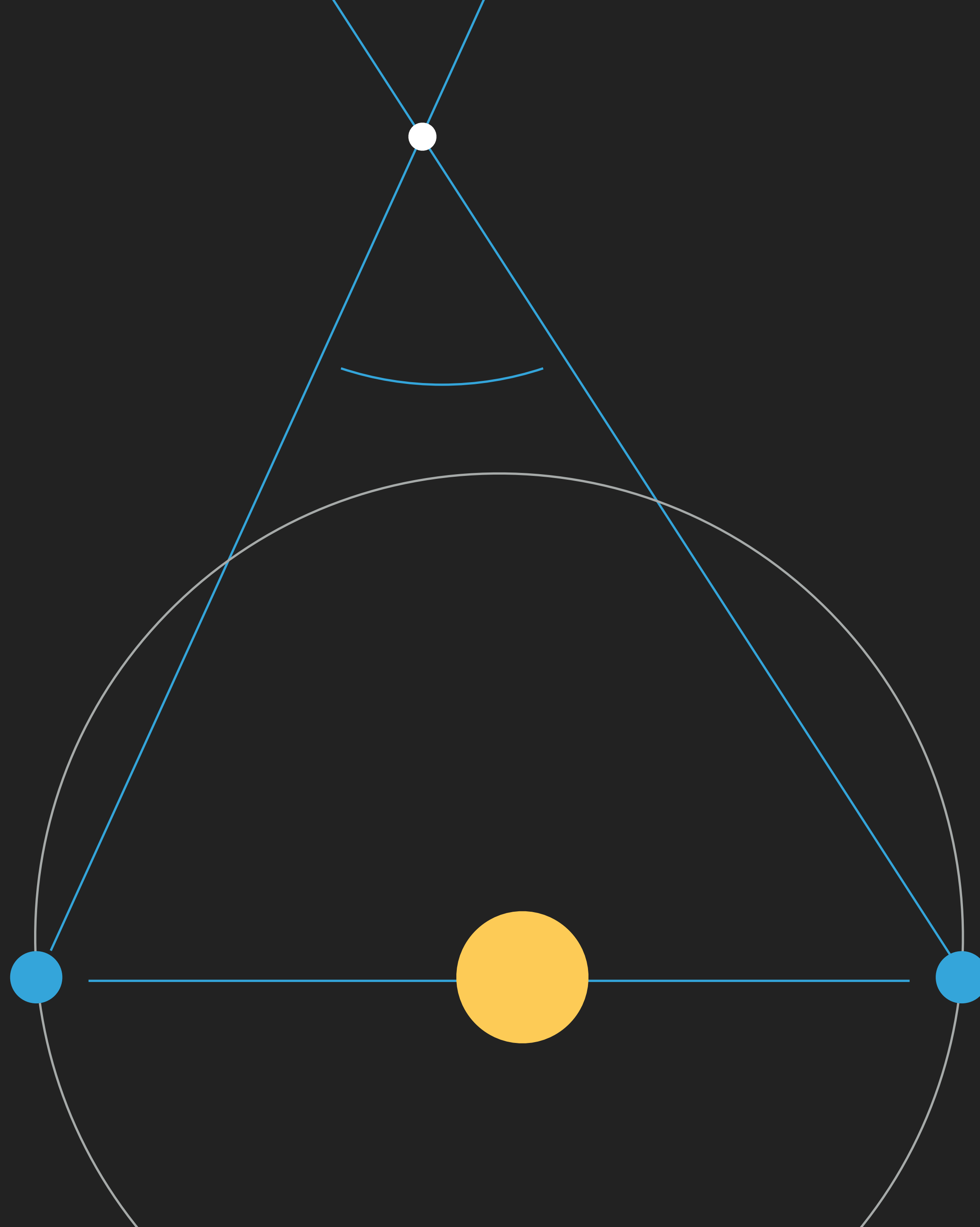


# “PTOLEMY'S UNIVERSE WOULD FIT WITHIN THE ORBIT OF EARTH”

-Calli Arcale, for MentalFloss





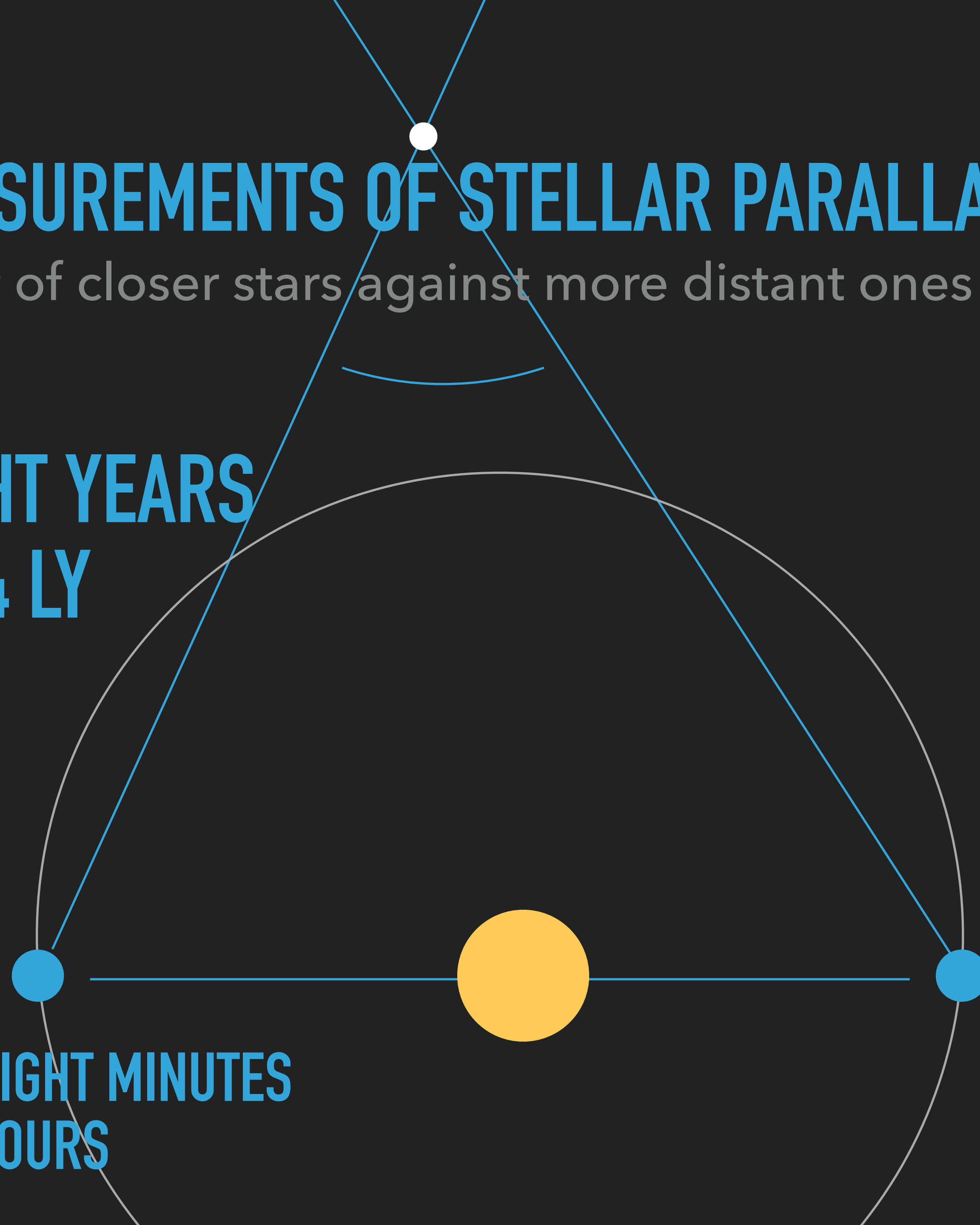


# 1830s – FIRST MEASUREMENTS OF STELLAR PARALLAX

Apparent seasonal shift of closer stars against more distant ones

**CYGNUS : 11.4 LIGHT YEARS**  
**ALPHA CENTAURI: 4 LY**

**EARTH-SUN DISTANCE: 8 LIGHT MINUTES**  
**SOLAR SYSTEM: 8 LIGHT HOURS**



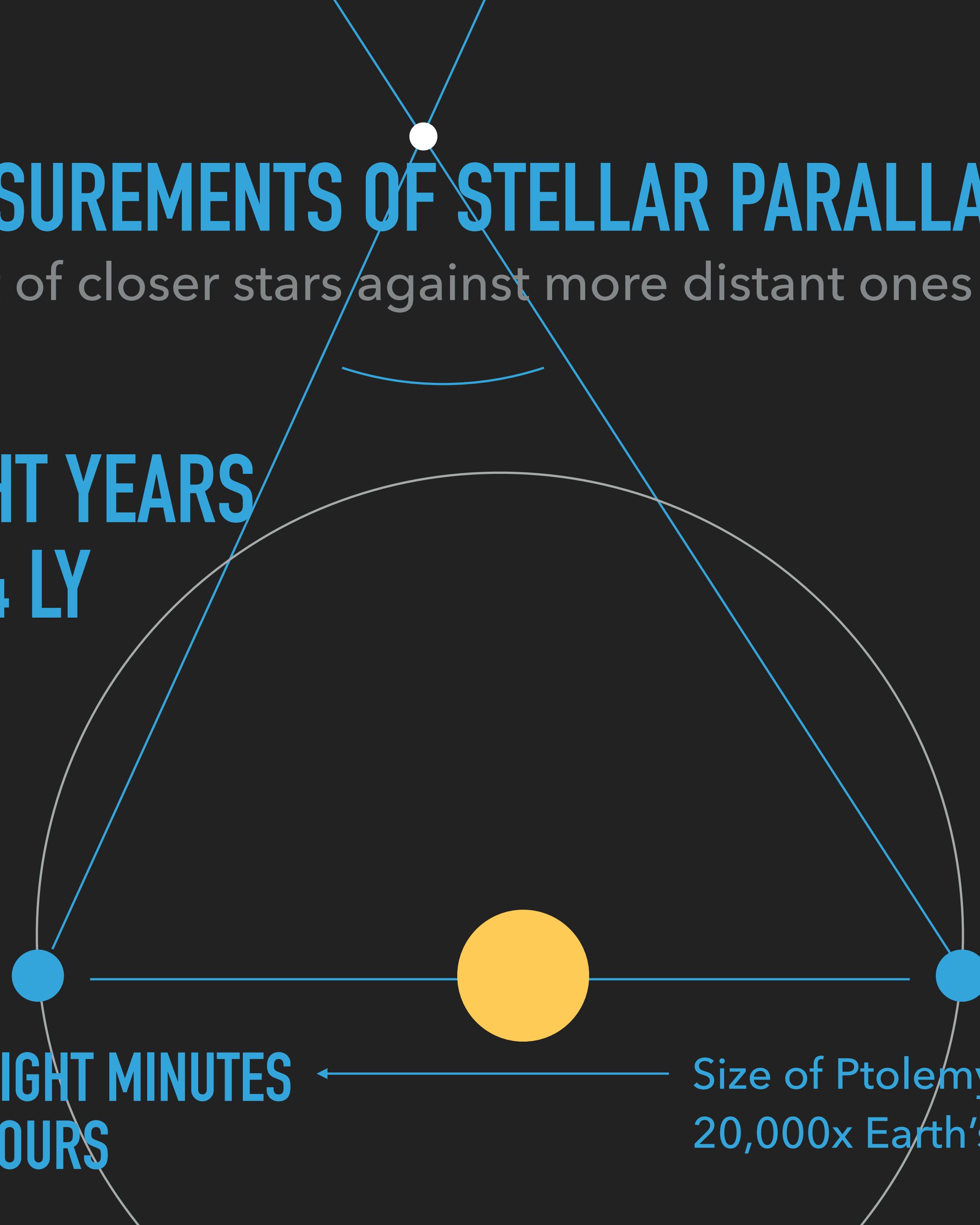
# 1830s – FIRST MEASUREMENTS OF STELLAR PARALLAX

Apparent seasonal shift of closer stars against more distant ones

**CYGNUS : 11.4 LIGHT YEARS**  
**ALPHA CENTAURI: 4 LY**

**EARTH-SUN DISTANCE: 8 LIGHT MINUTES**  
**SOLAR SYSTEM: 8 LIGHT HOURS**

Size of Ptolemy's Entire Celestial Sphere:  
20,000x Earth's radius  $\approx$  7 light minutes





## EARLY 1900S

Parallax method maps thousands of the nearest stars (within **100ly**). Correlations between brightness, spectrum, and distance allow us to infer position of more distant stars within this galaxy\*, up to about **300ly**.

Milky Way galaxy is ~100,000 light years across, so we're well within our own universe.

*When Einstein published his first relativity paper, **it was not known if the universe consisted of more than our local galaxy.***



# HENRIETTA SWAN LEAVITT

0:31 / 3:56

CC HD

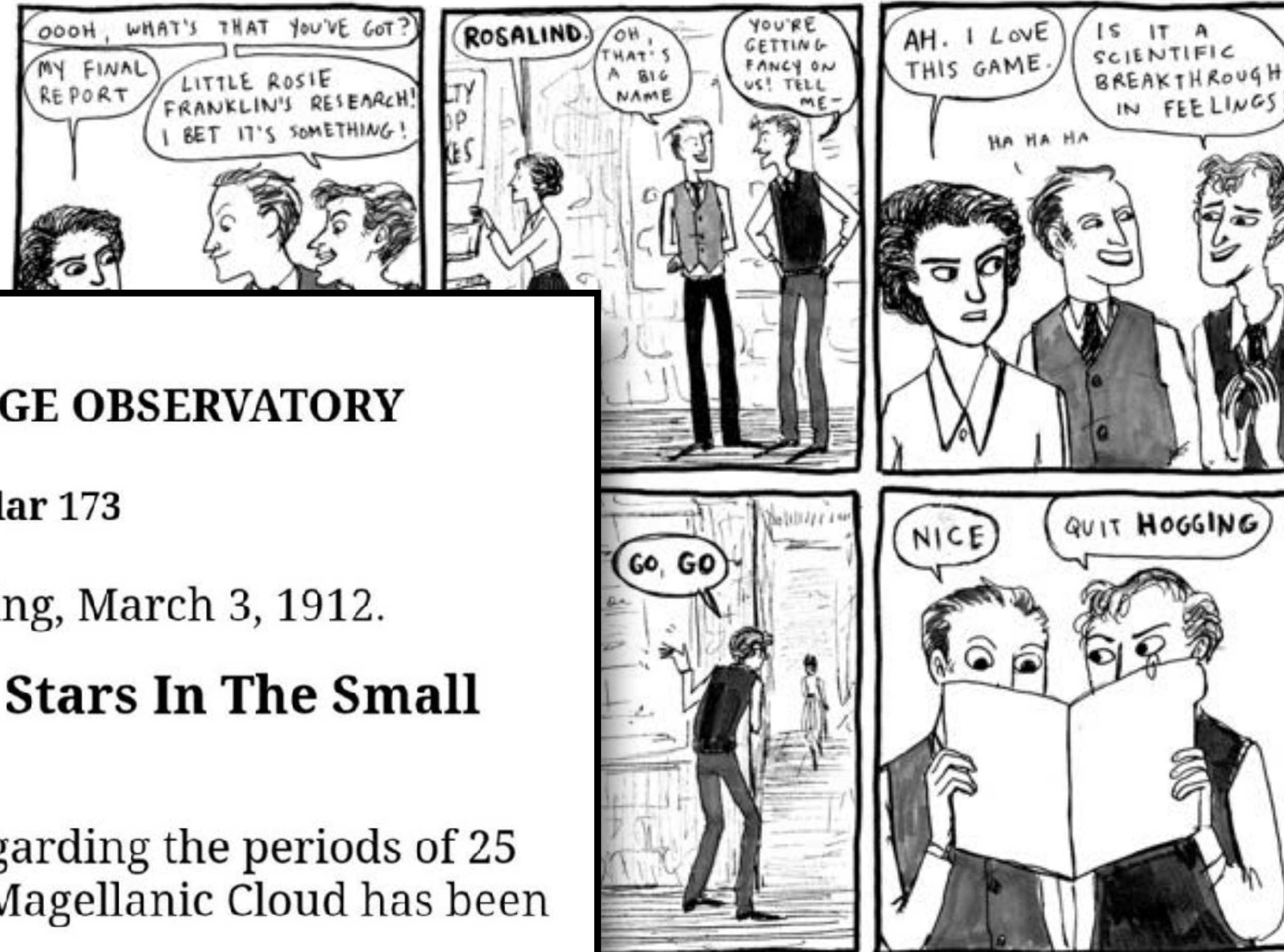
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FrY6gRPC7k>

# EVERY LADY SCIENTIST WHO EVER DID ANYTHING TILL NOW



Rosalind! Don't let 'em get you down. The trouble with reading about any given woman who was born before your mom is that yes, sometimes, they were hilarious, powerful, tough, loud, etcetera, etcetera—all good comic making material! But then sometimes, man, the main thing about them is that they just got screwed, big time. Here's to all the old time ladies of science, and their ideas that were worth stealing.

EVERY LADY SCIENTIST WHO  
EVER DID ANYTHING  
TILL NOW



## HARVARD COLLEGE OBSERVATORY

Circular 173

Edward C. Pickering, March 3, 1912.

### Periods Of 25 Variable Stars In The Small Magellanic Cloud.

The following statement regarding the periods of 25 variable stars in the Small Magellanic Cloud has been prepared by Miss Leavitt.

A Catalogue of 1777 variable stars in the two Magellanic Clouds is given in H.A. 60, No. 4. The measurement and discussion of these objects present problems of unusual difficulty on account of the large

ng about any given woman who was born before your mom is that yes, ra, etcetera—all good comic making material! But then sometimes, man, me. Here's to all the old time ladies of science, and their ideas that were

Kate Beaton

<http://www.harkavagrants.com>

# LEAVITT'S LAW (1908)

Leavitt, not permitted direct telescope time, instead analyzed photographic plates as a Harvard "computer", and discovered a correlation between the **period** of a special pulsating star, known as a Cepheid Variable, with its **brightness**.

This established the first "**standard candle**", allowing astronomers to distinguish bright distant stars from dim nearby ones.

Leavitt's law allowed determining stellar distance up to **60,000,000 light years**.

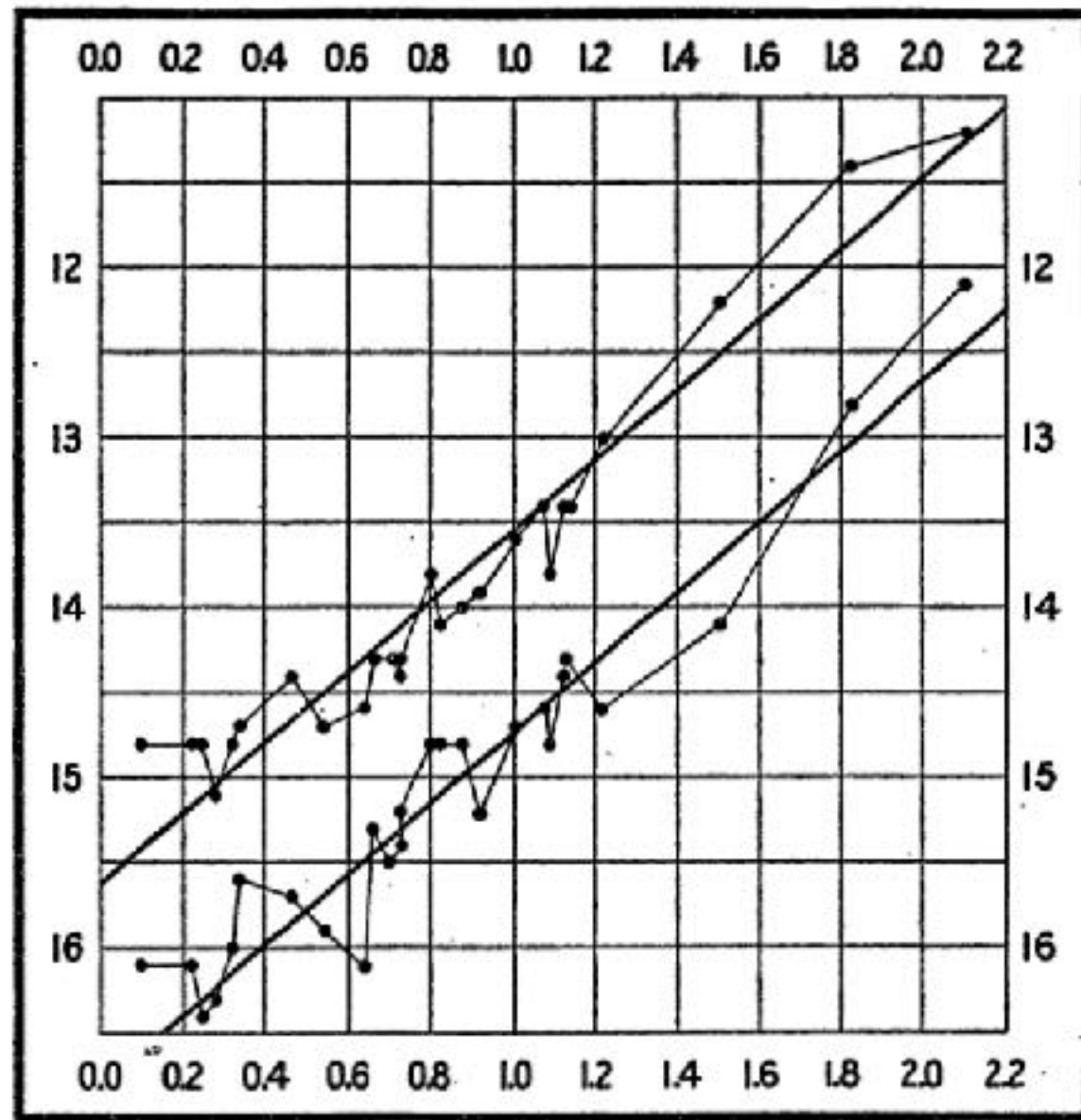
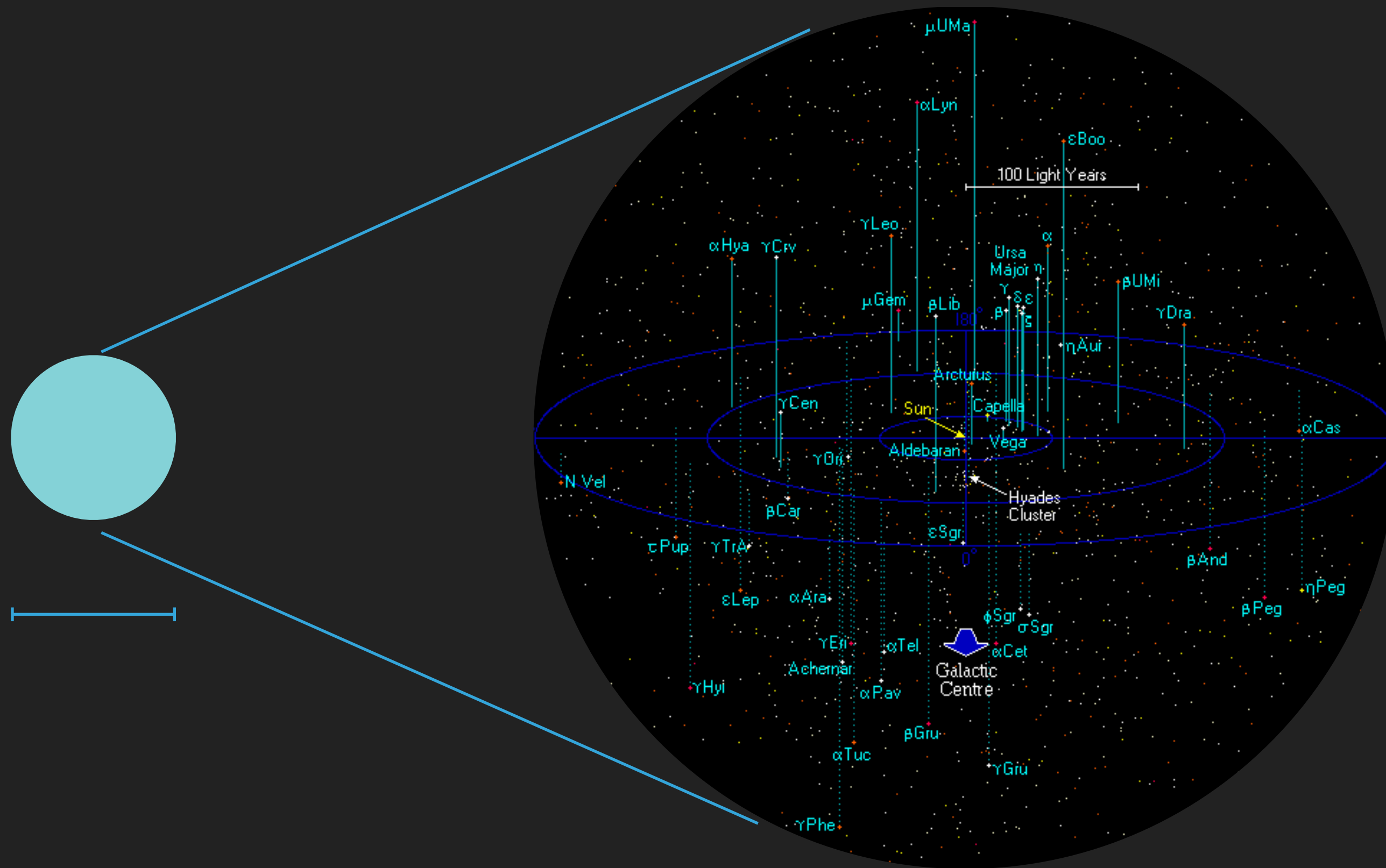


FIG. 2.

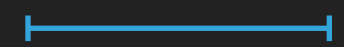
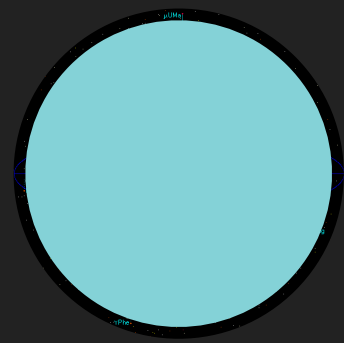
*up from 300ly!!*



250,000+ stars

1/3 of stars visible to the naked eye

Parallax method: 300 light years



Parallax method: 300 light years

300 light years

100 billion to 400 billion stars



Milky Way Galaxy: 100,000 light years





100,000 light years

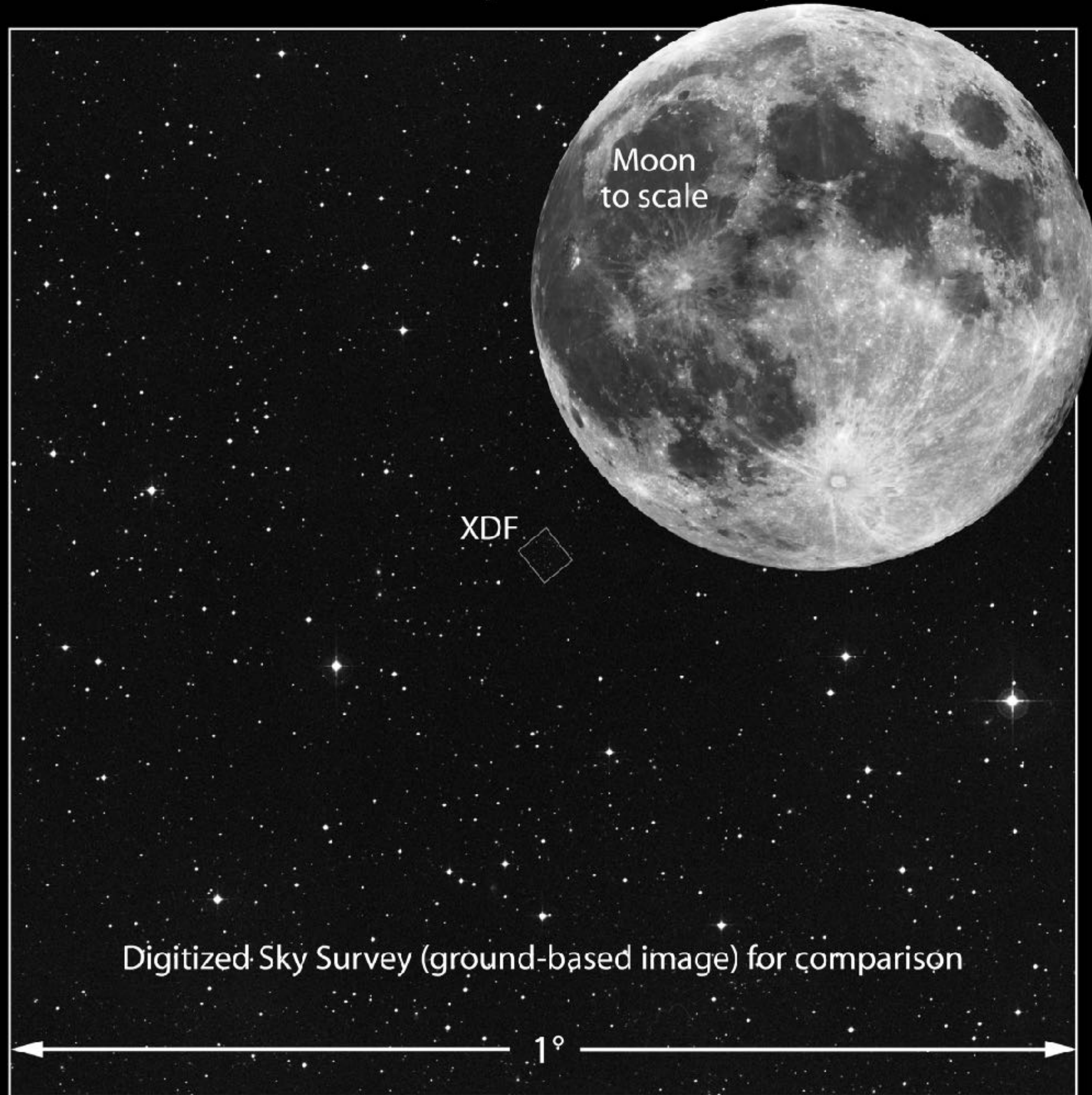
• Milky Way

In **1924**, Edwin Hubble used Cepheid variables to determine the distance of the Andromeda Galaxy, providing the first conclusive evidence for galaxies outside the Milky Way.

Leavitt's method: 60,000,000 light years

# HUBBLE DEEP FIELD

## Size of Hubble eXtreme Deep Field on the Sky



# HUBBLE DEEP FIELD



# HUBBLE DEEP FIELD

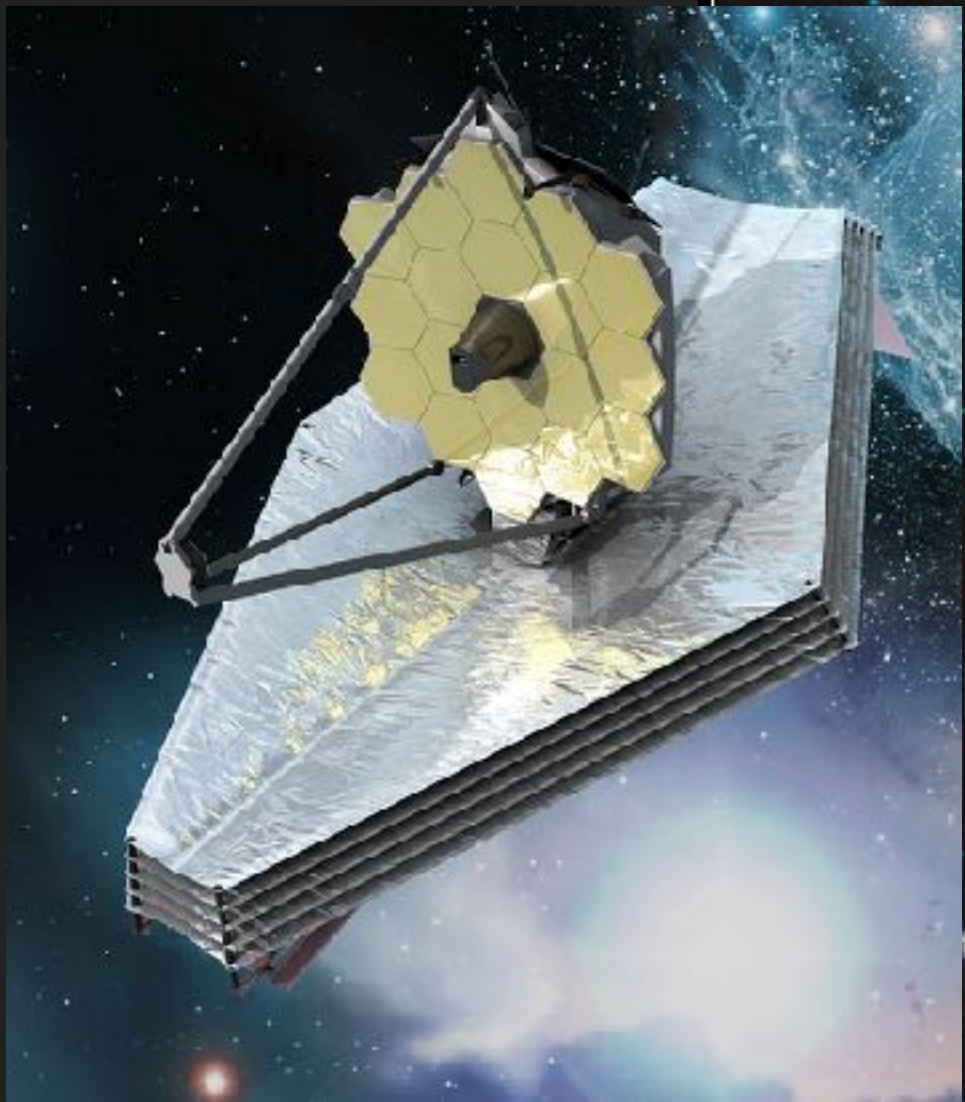
*"The XDF is the deepest image of the sky ever obtained and reveals the faintest and most distant galaxies ever seen. XDF allows us to explore further back in time than ever before\*"*

–principal investigator of the Hubble Ultra Deep Field.

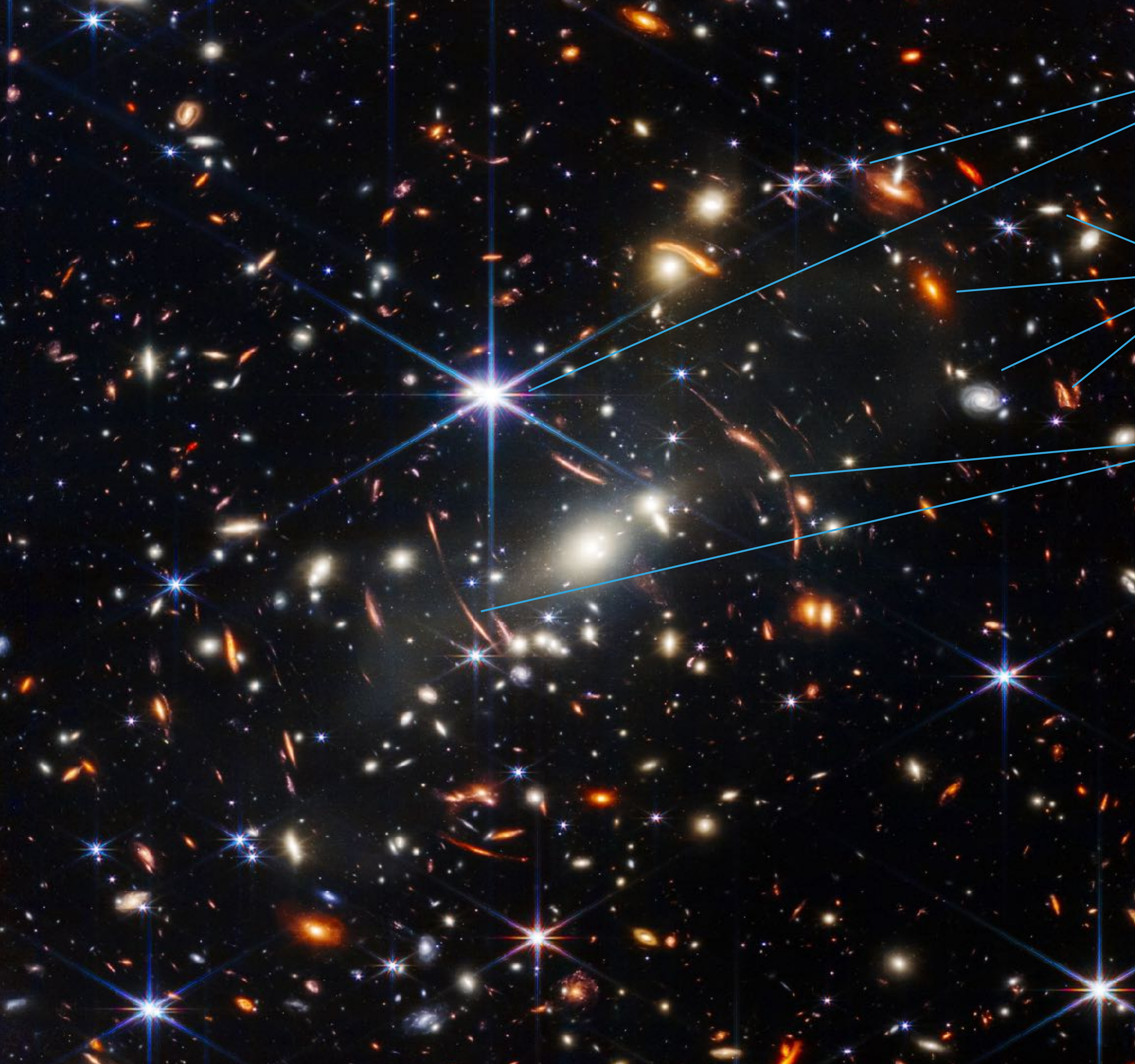
# HUBBLE DEEP FIELD



*\*Until now...*



Hubble/JWT comparison (simulated JWT images)



Nearby local Milky Way stars have 8 light spikes due to lens support mechanism (like bokeh)

**Everything else is a GALAXY!!** Each of which might contain billions or even trillions of stars.

These galaxies are distorted in a ring shape because of gravitational lensing. They are behind the super-massive galactic cluster SMACS 0723 in the center of the image.

It took 12.5 hours to gather the images in this composite. It took weeks of exposure time over a year to create the Hubble Deep Field image.

Some of the light that formed this image is over **13 billion years old**.

If you held a grain of sand at arms length, it would cover up this portion of sky.

<https://www.fi.edu/blog/First-JMST-Image>

<https://www.nasa.gov/webbfirstimages>

# 1929

Hubble uses Cepheid distances to determine the **Universe is expanding**. This leads to the concept of the Big Bang and an age to the Universe.

# 1998

Researchers using methods similar to Leavitt's applied to supernovae (finding 'standard candles') determine the **expansion of the Universe is accelerating**.



Image: Carlos Budassi



# DRAKE EQUATION

The number of civilisations in our galaxy in which communication might be possible.

$$N = R * f_p * n_e * f_l * f_i * f_c * L$$

The average rate of star formation per year in our galaxy

The fraction of stars with planets

The average number of planets that can potentially support life (per star with planets.)

The fraction that can go on to support intelligent life.

The fraction that can go on to support life.

The fraction of civilisations that develop a technology detectable from space.

Length of time such civilisations release detectable signs into space.

The Drake Equation.

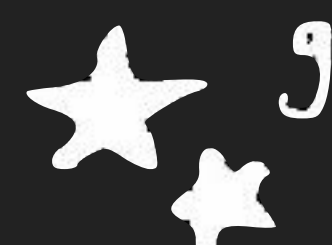
# DRAKE EQUATION



The number of civilisations in our galaxy in which communication might be possible.

$N =$

The average rate of star formation per year



The fraction that

The current best estimates suggest that anywhere between 10% and 50% of sun-like stars have planets like ours, leading to numbers that make astronomers' heads swim.

"If it's 50%, that's bonkers, right?" says Jessie Christiansen, an astrophysicist at Caltech in Pasadena, California. "There are billions of sun-like stars in the galaxy, and if half of them have Earth-like planets, there could be billions of habitable rocky planets."

Length of time such civilisations release detectable signs into space.

fraction of civilisations that develop a technology detectable from space.

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2023/11/13/1082873/the-biggest-questions-are-we-alone-in-the-universe/>

support life (per star with planets.)

The Drake Equation.

# DRAKE EQUATION



Astronomers estimate that the universe could contain up to one septillion stars - which in numbers is 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000.

Our Milky Way alone contains more than 100 billion.

<https://universe.nasa.gov/stars/basics/>

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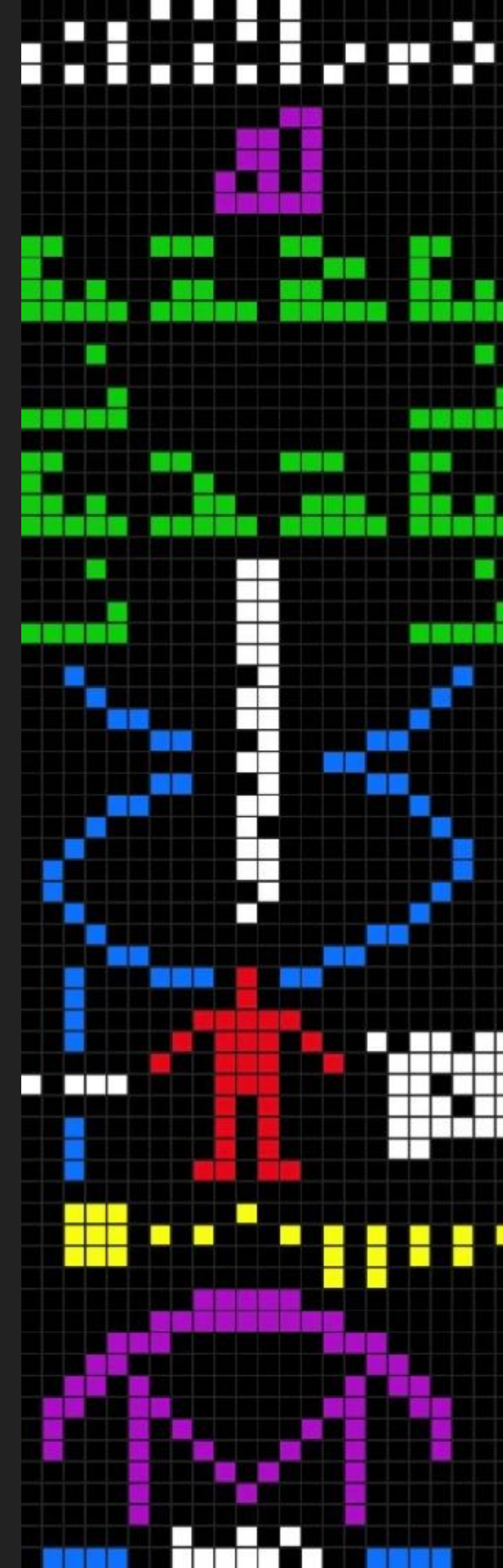
# ARECIBO MESSAGE

Designed by Frank Drake.

Beamed towards Messier 13 Supercluster in 1974.

Messier 13 is 25,000 ly away

(The Arecebo Radio Telescope was decommissioned in 2020)

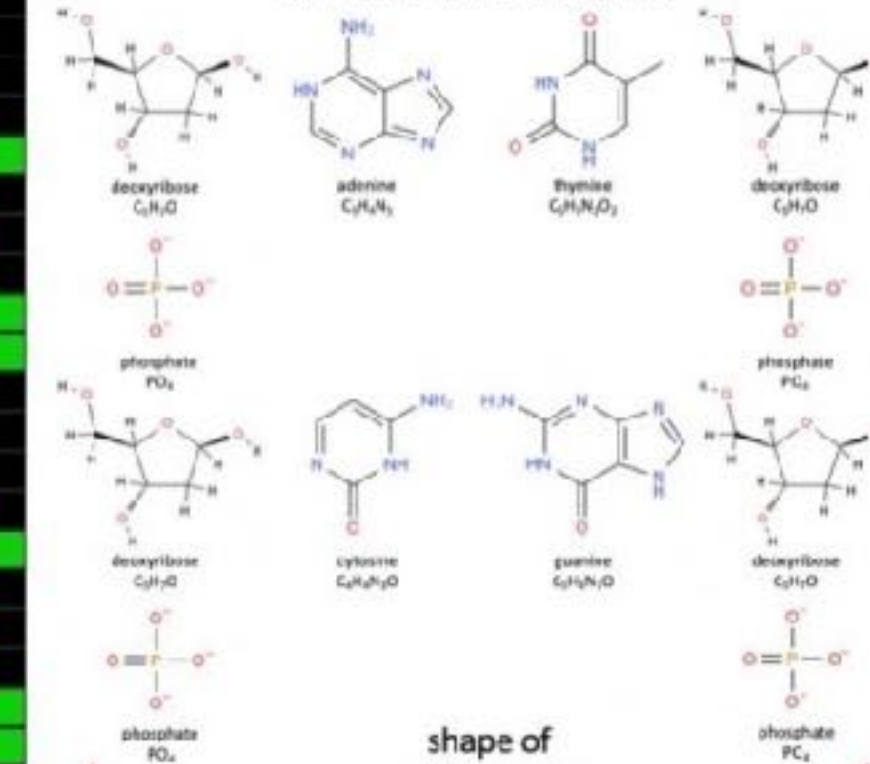


numbers  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

basic elements of life

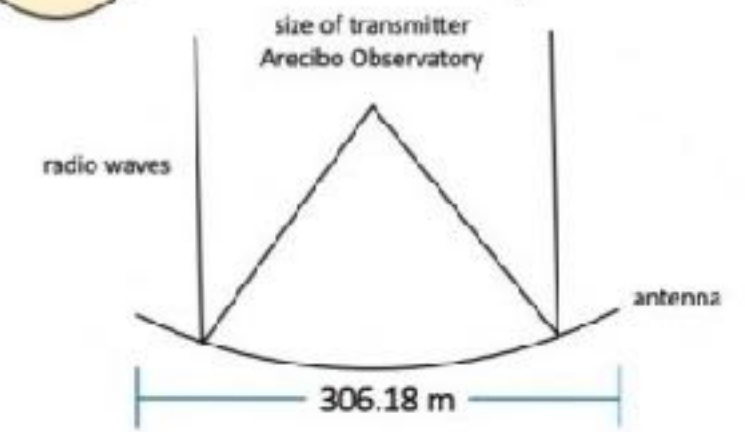
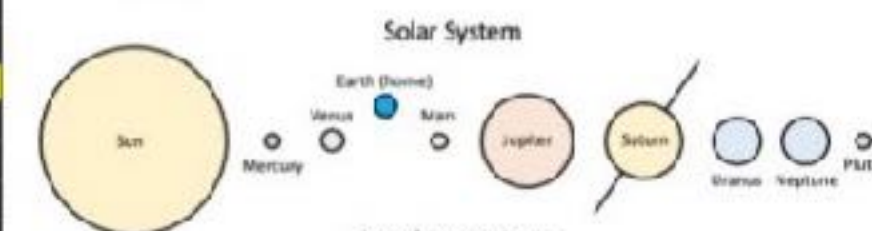
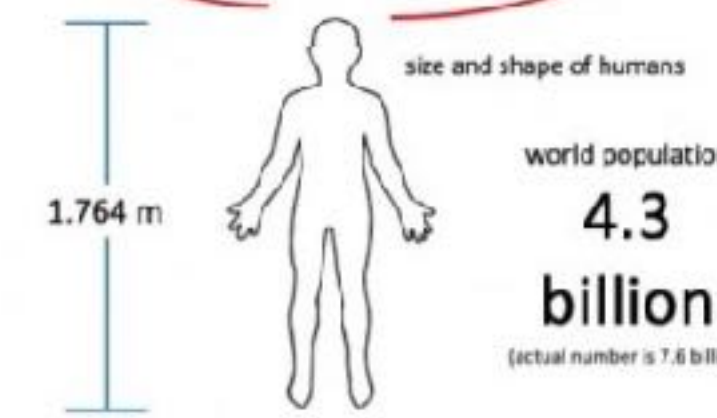


basic chemistry of life (nucleotides)



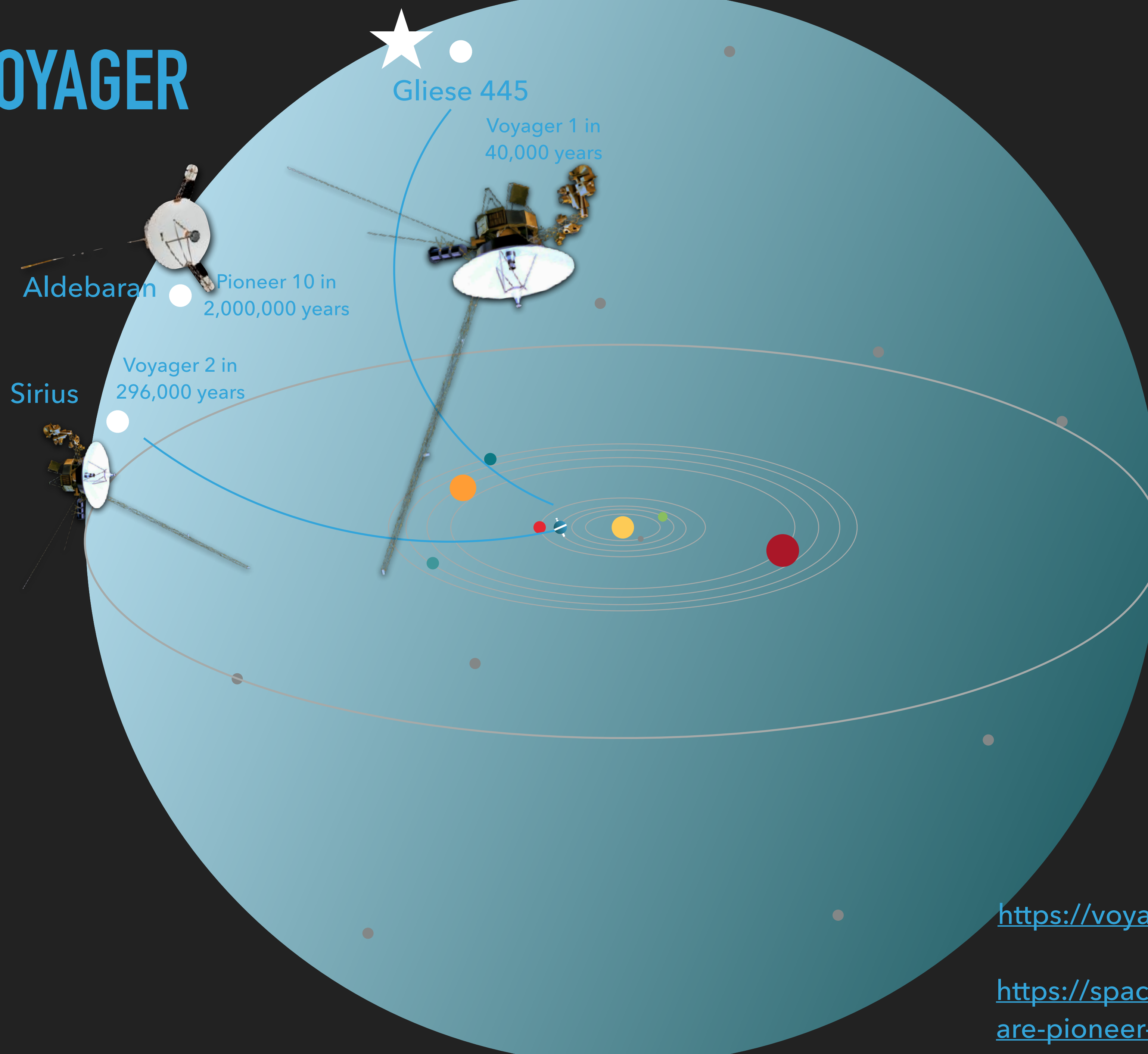
shape of DNA and number of nucleotide pairs in humans

**4.3 billion**  
(actual number is 3.2 billion)



# **TIME IN PIONEER AND VOYAGER**

# VOYAGER



Current distance:

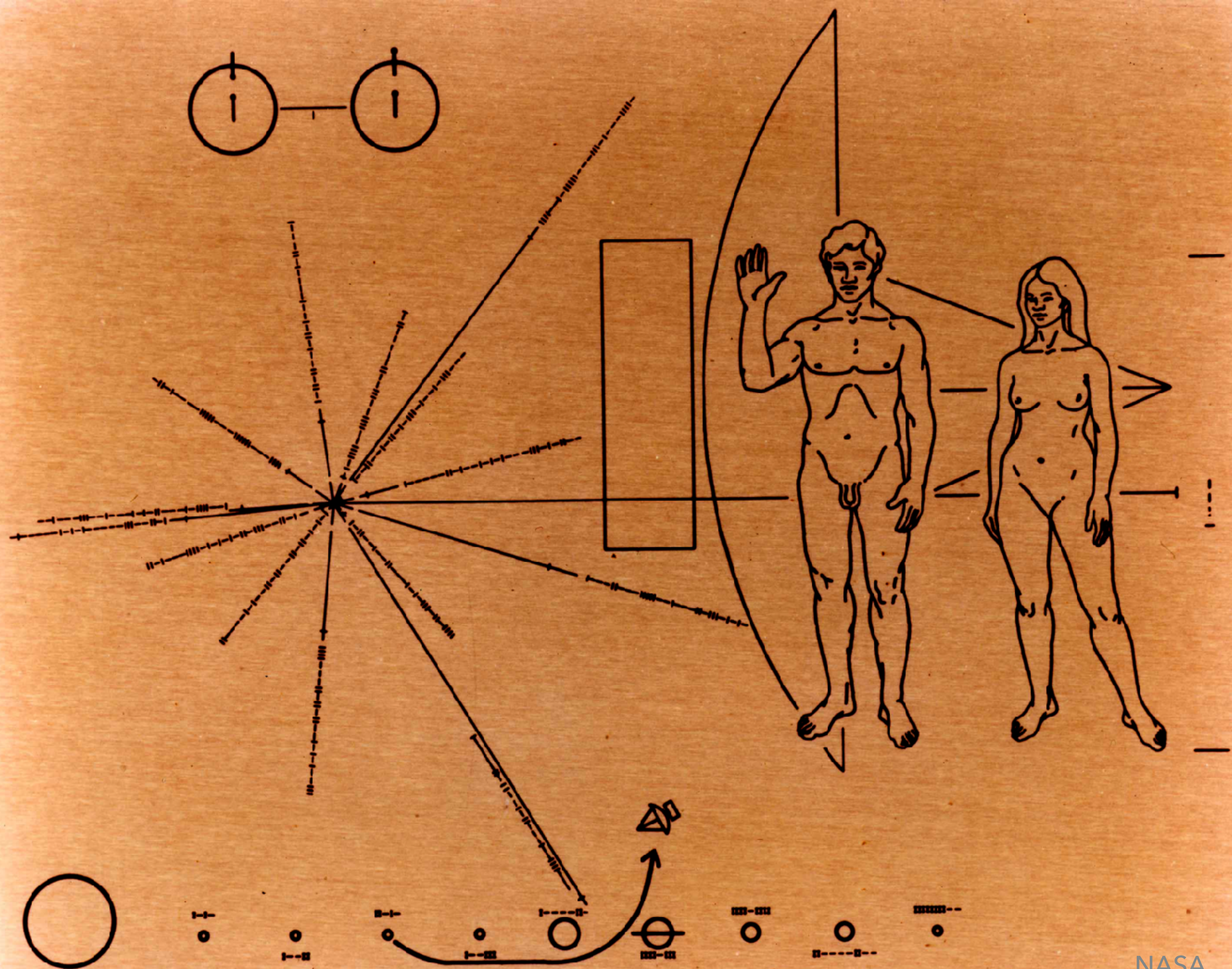
Voyager 1: 162.5 AU (22.5 lh)

Voyager 2: 135.5 AU (18.75 lh)

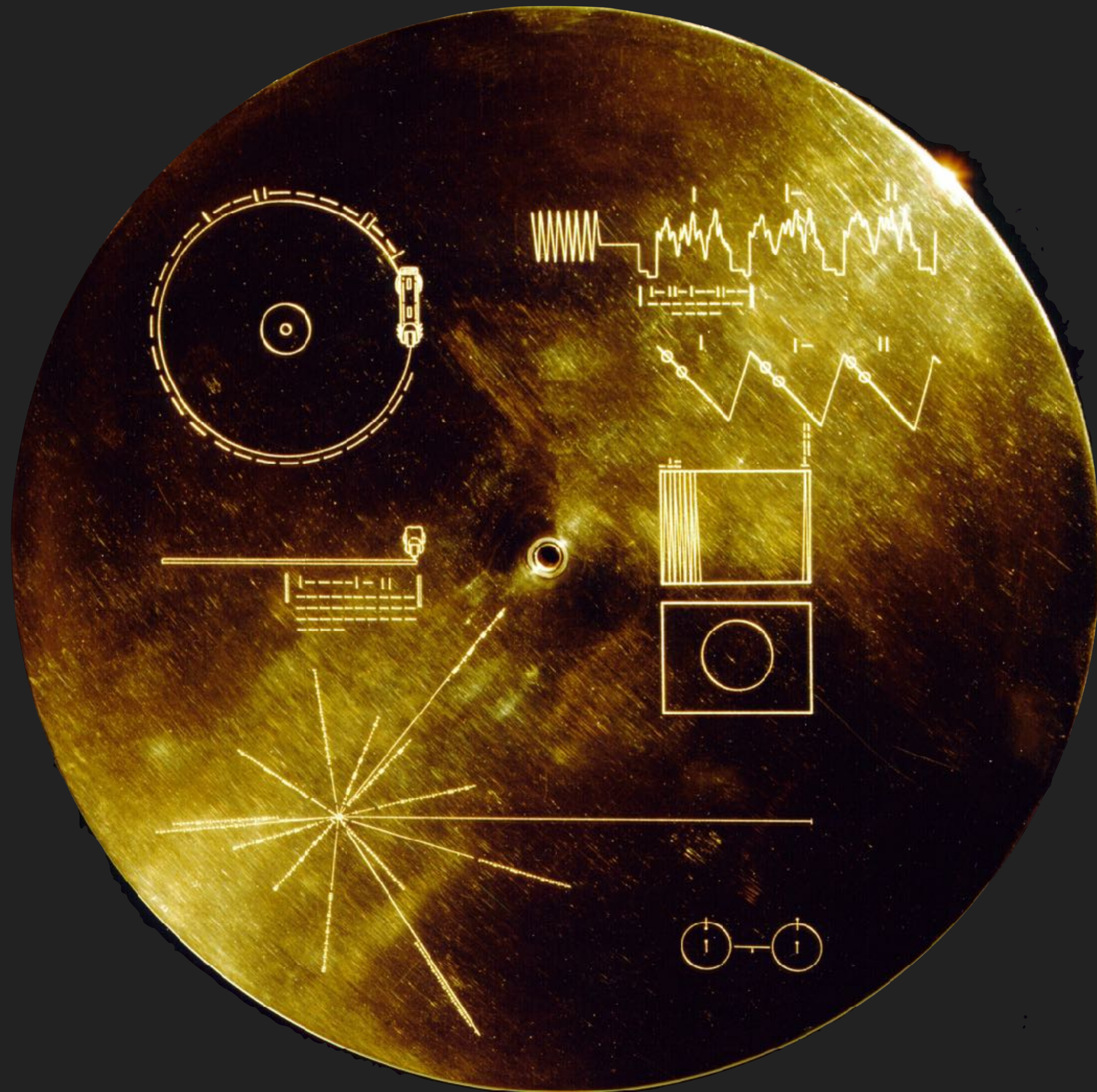
<https://voyager.jpl.nasa.gov/mission/status/>

<https://space.stackexchange.com/questions/1621/where-are-pioneer-10-11-and-the-voyagers-ultimately-headed>

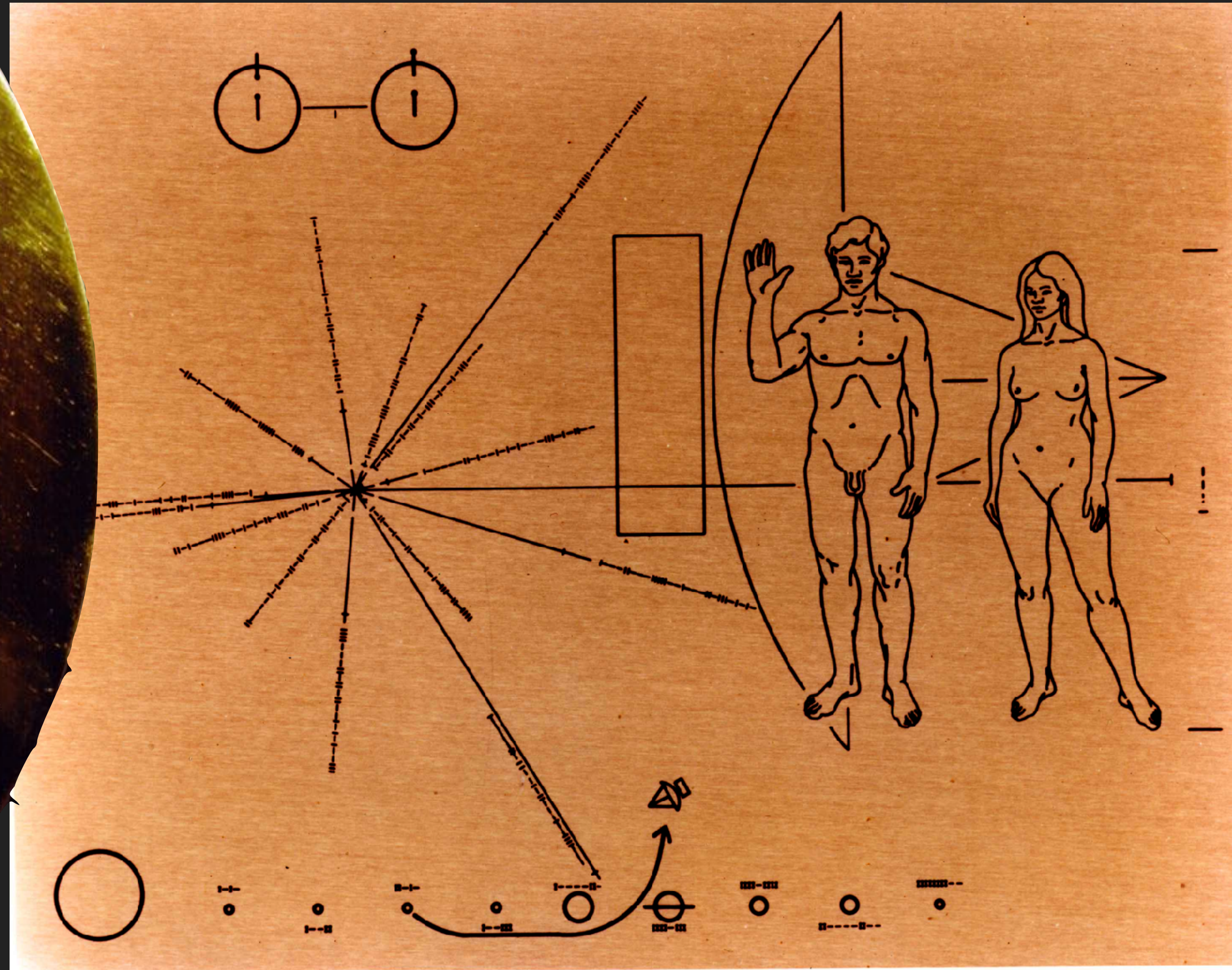
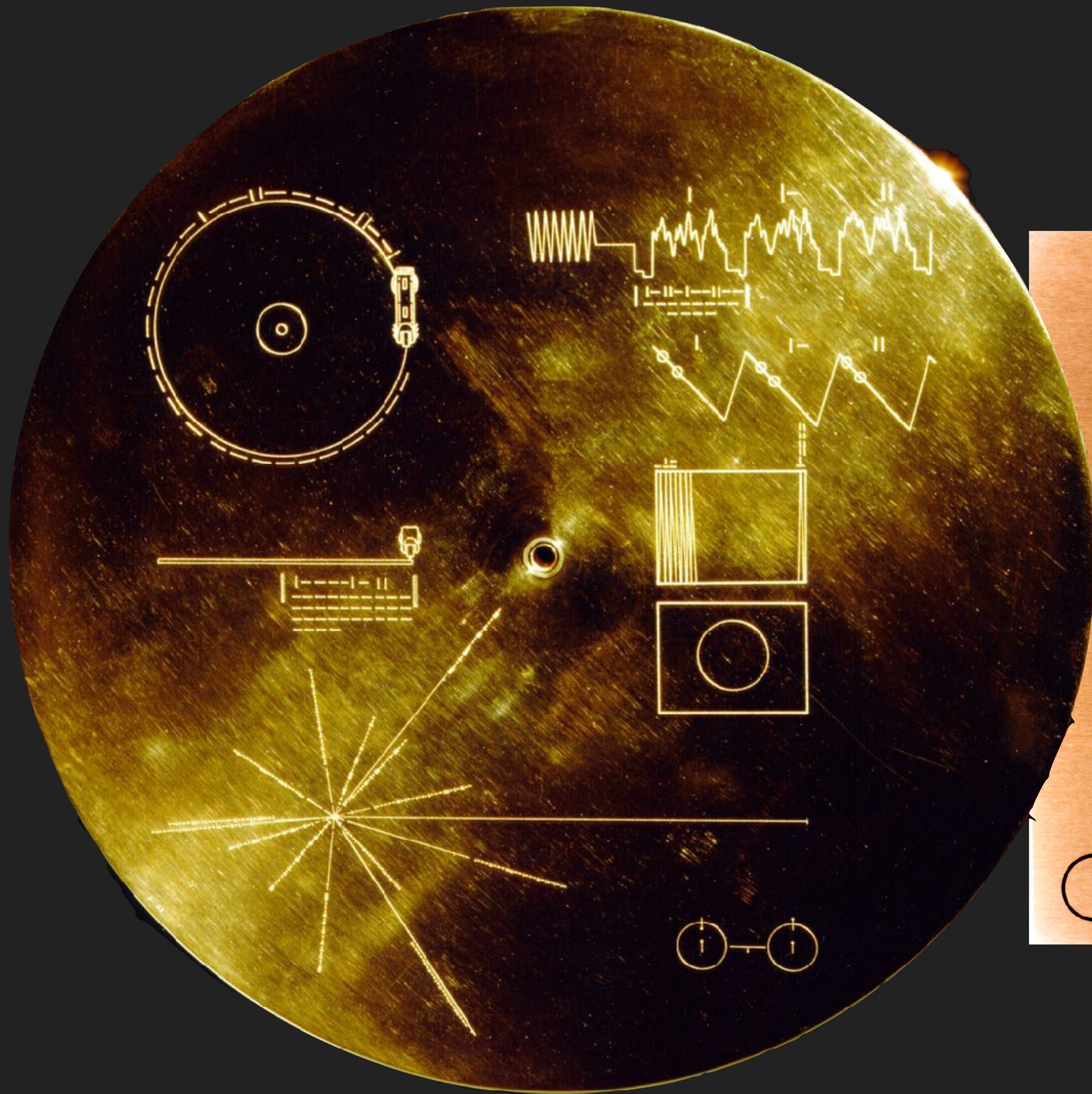
# PIONEER



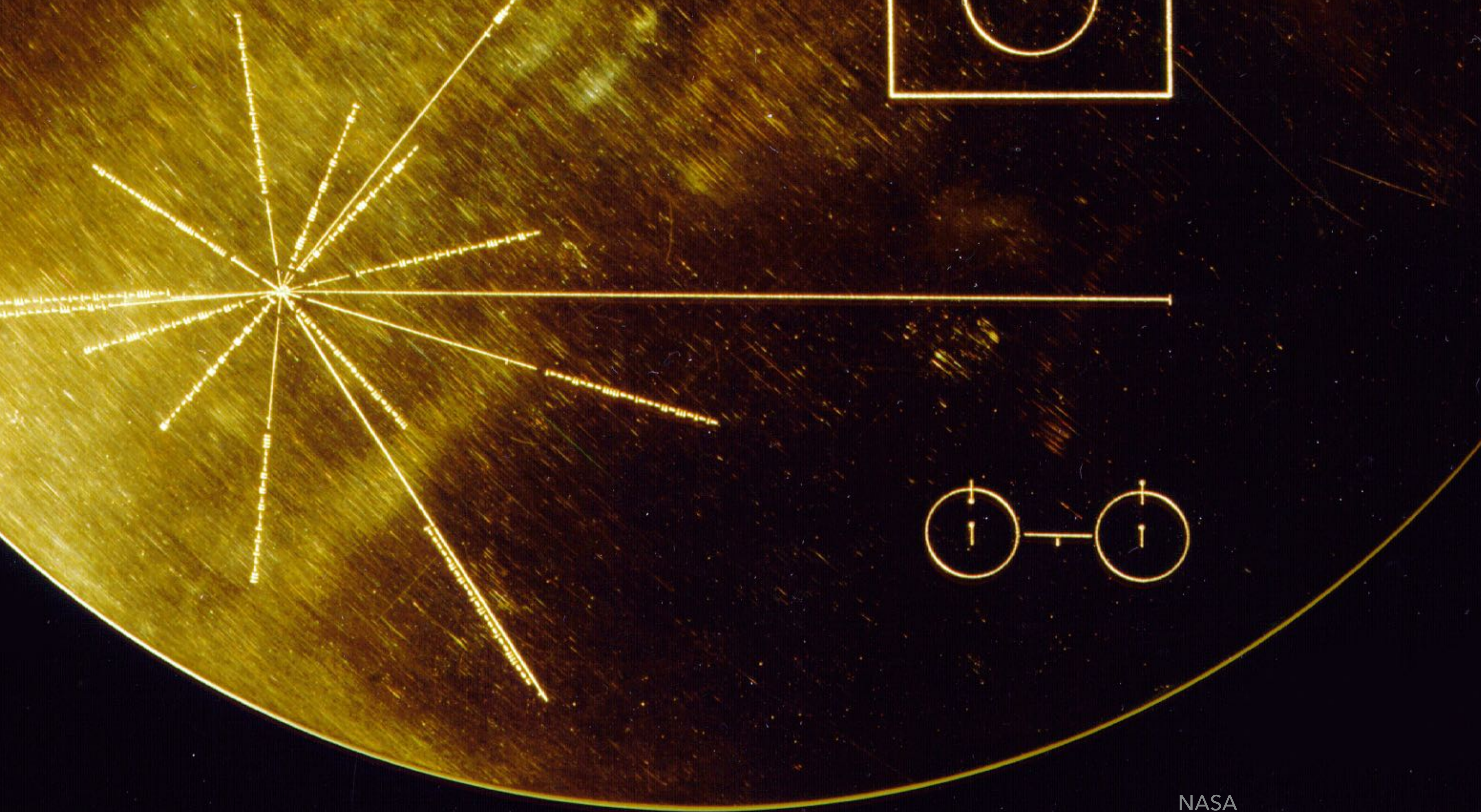
# VOYAGER

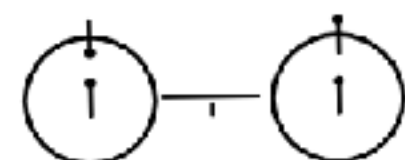
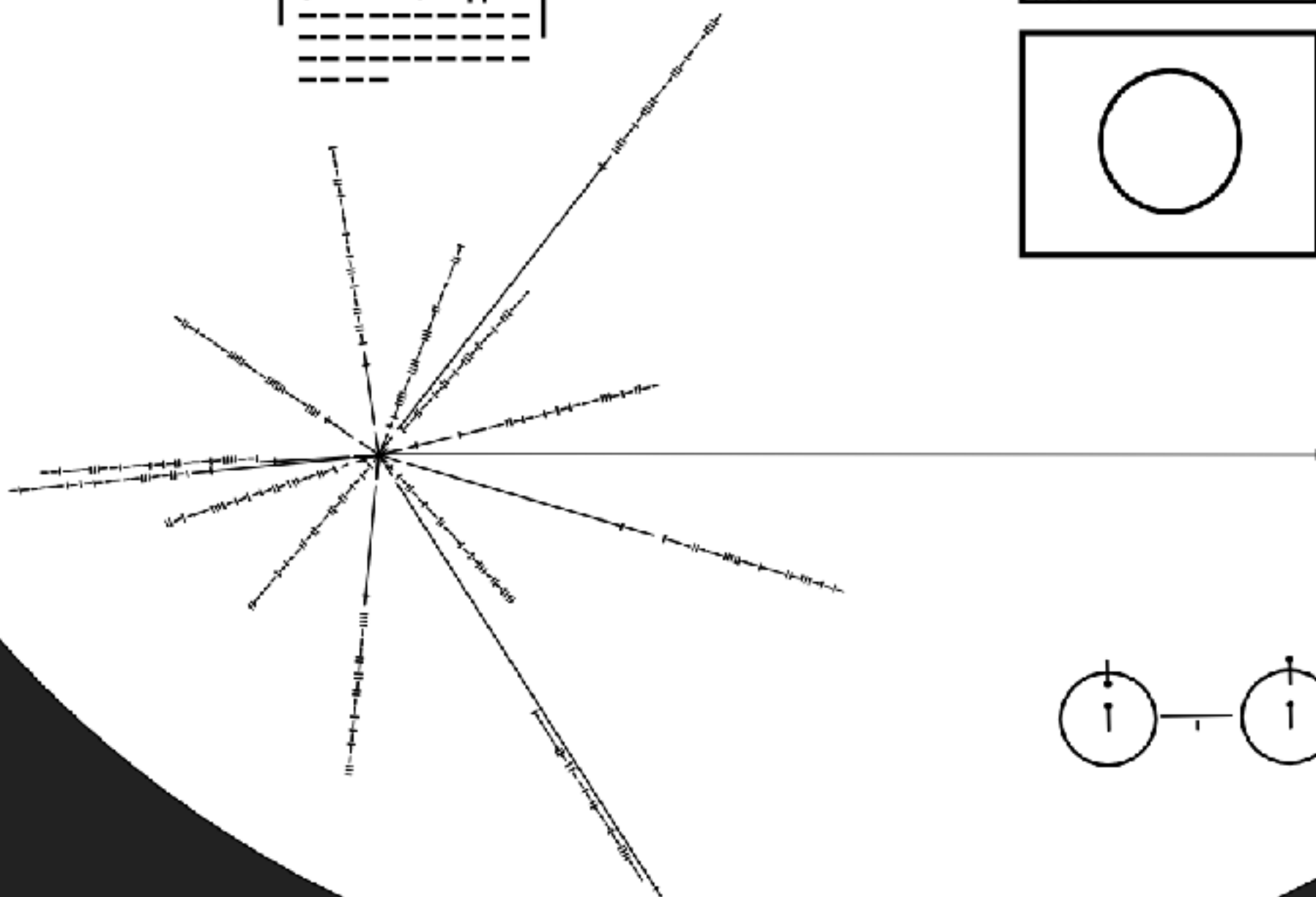
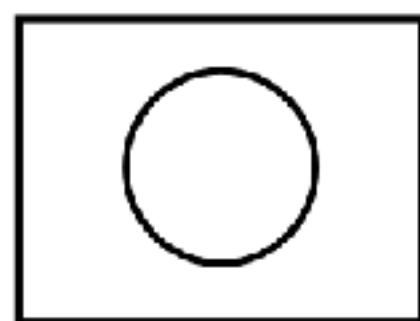
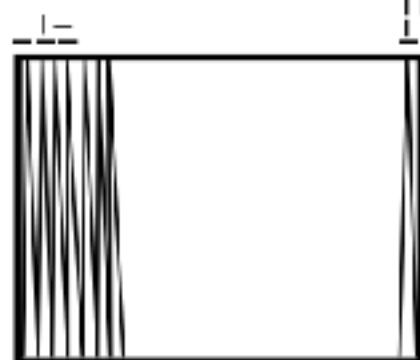
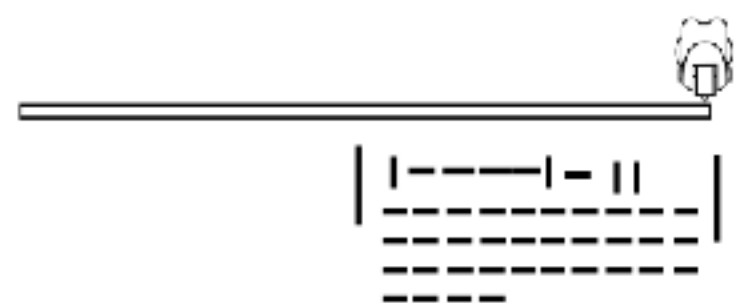
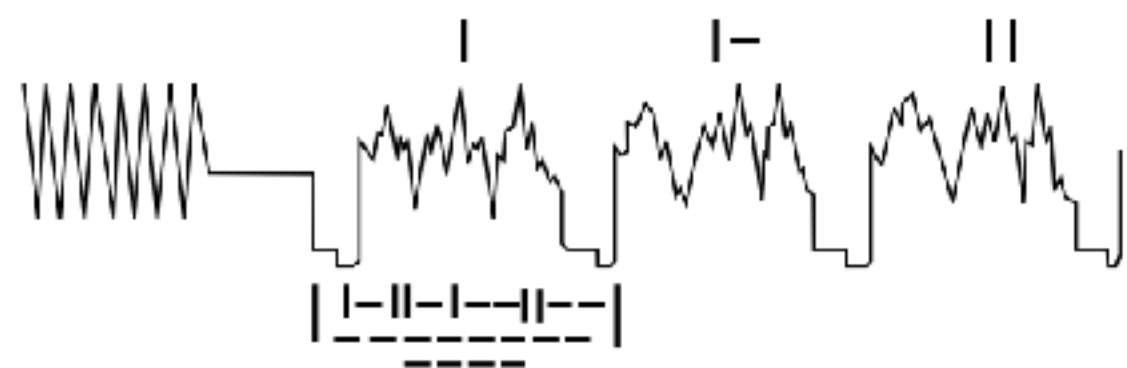
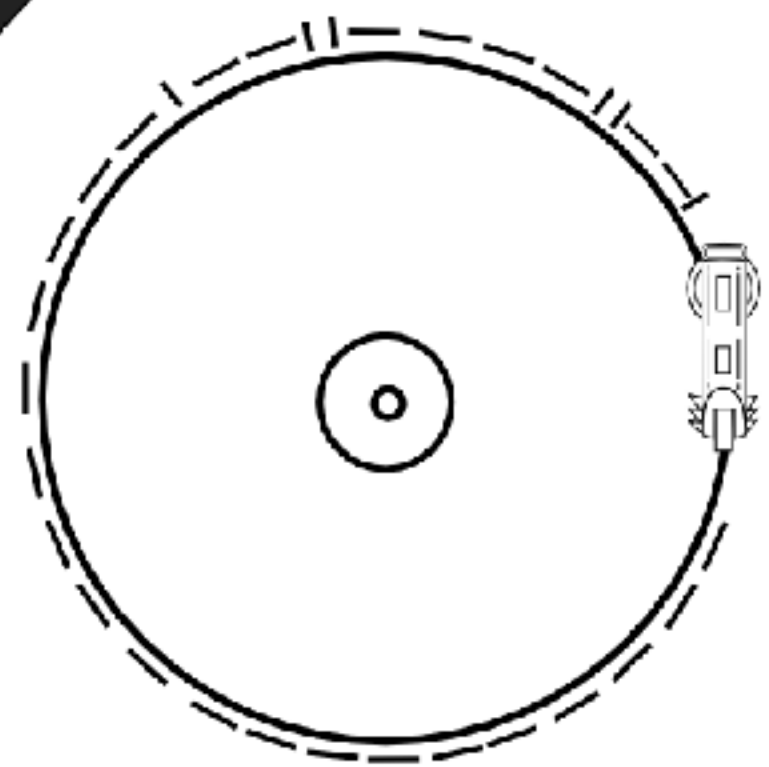


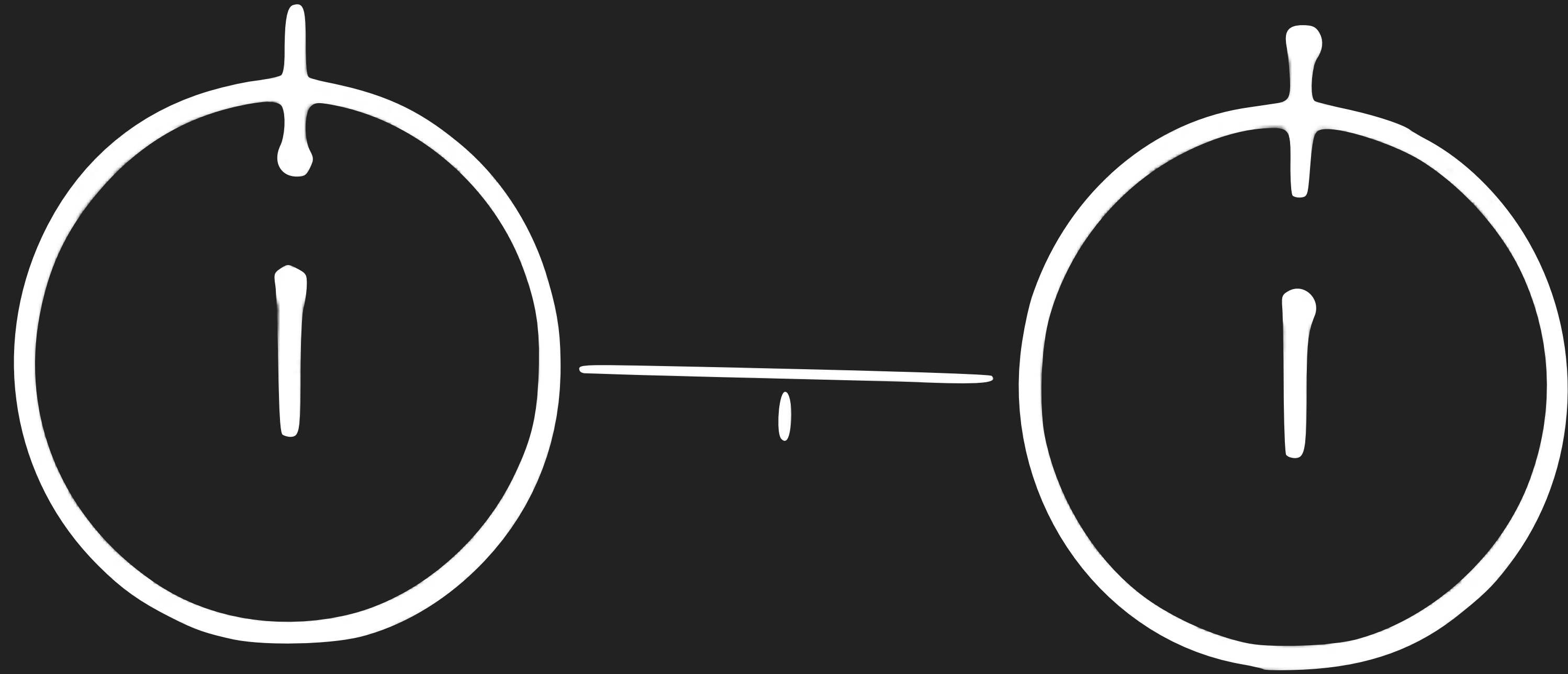


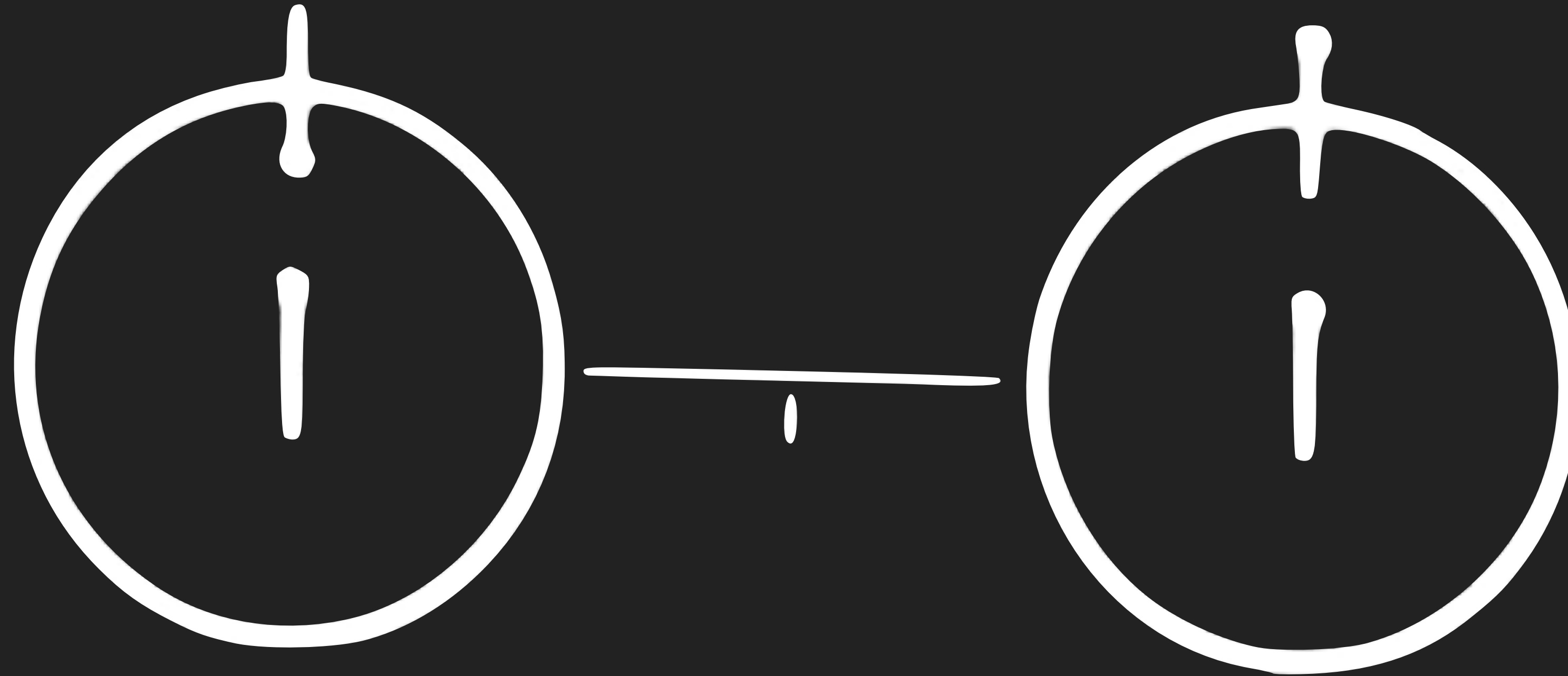
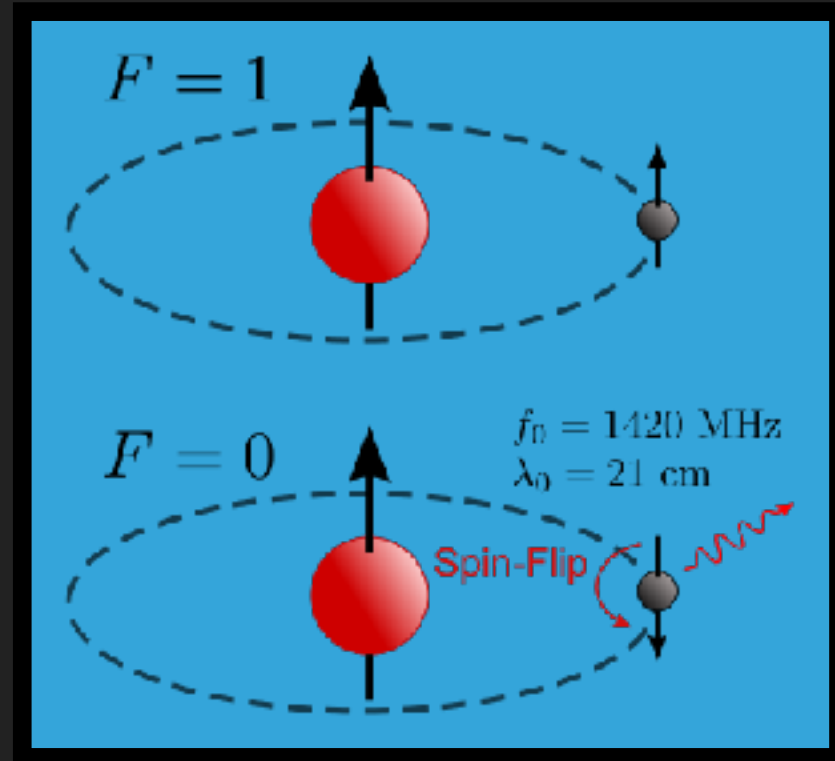


NASA

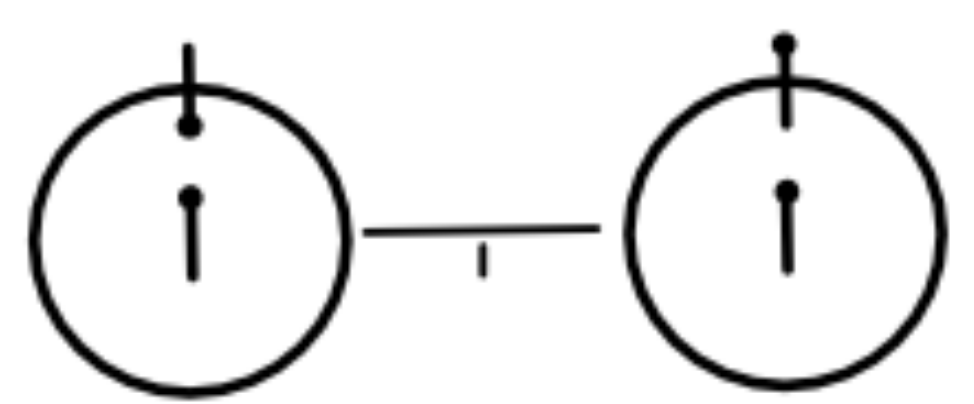
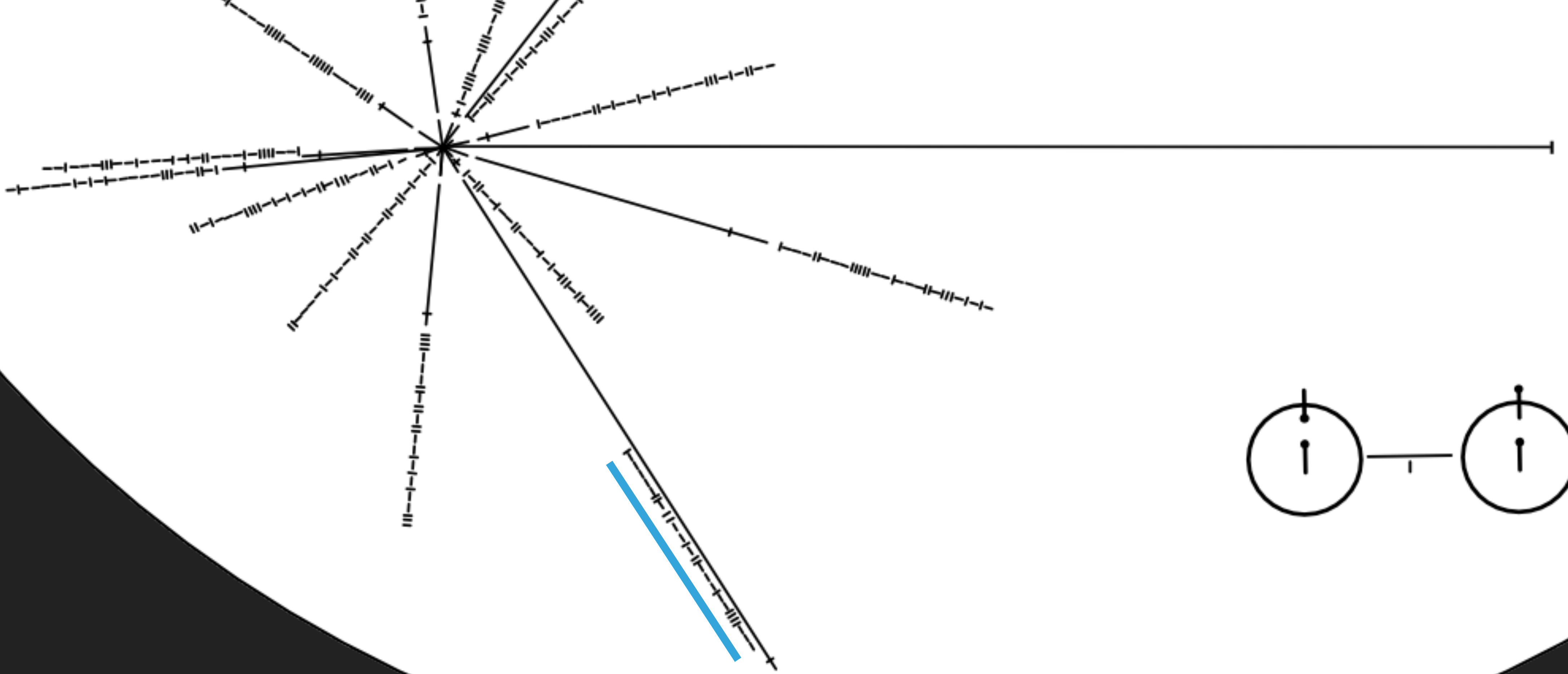


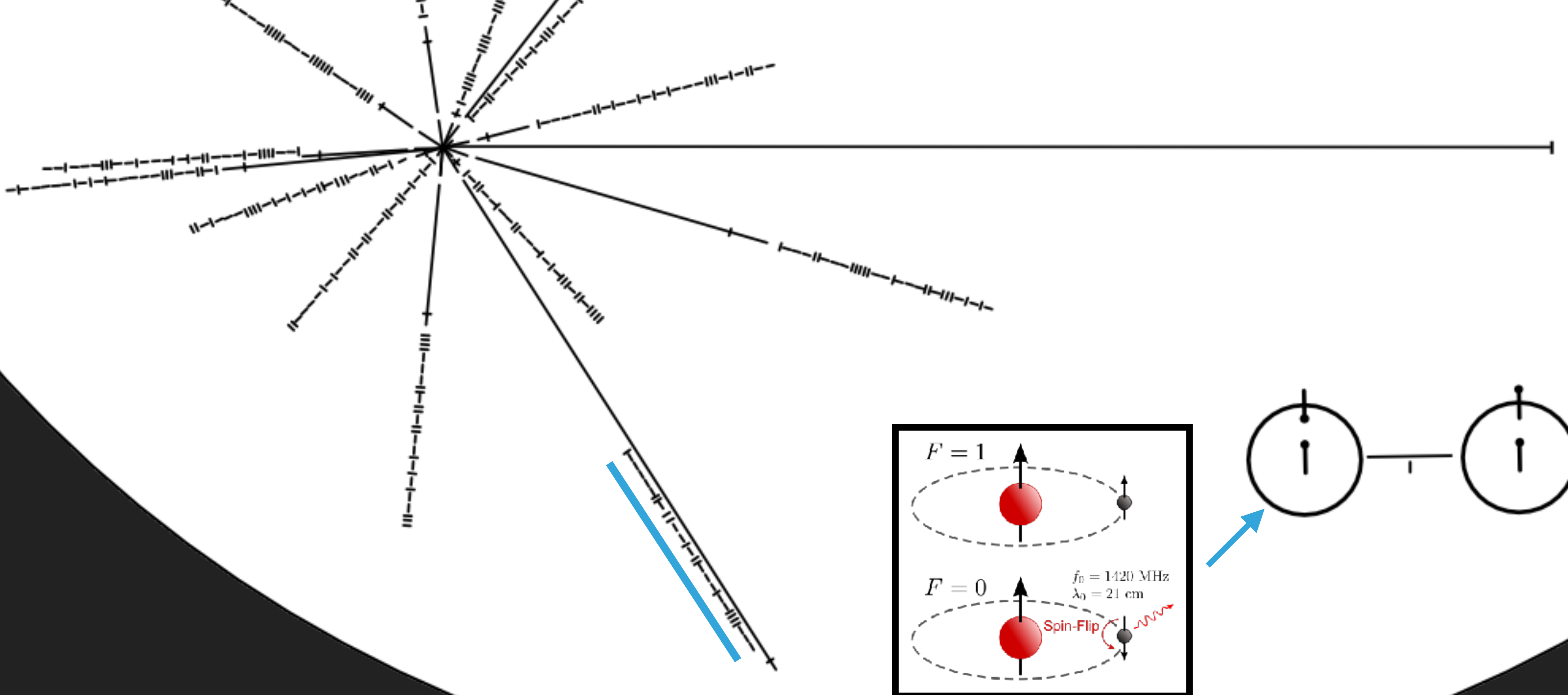






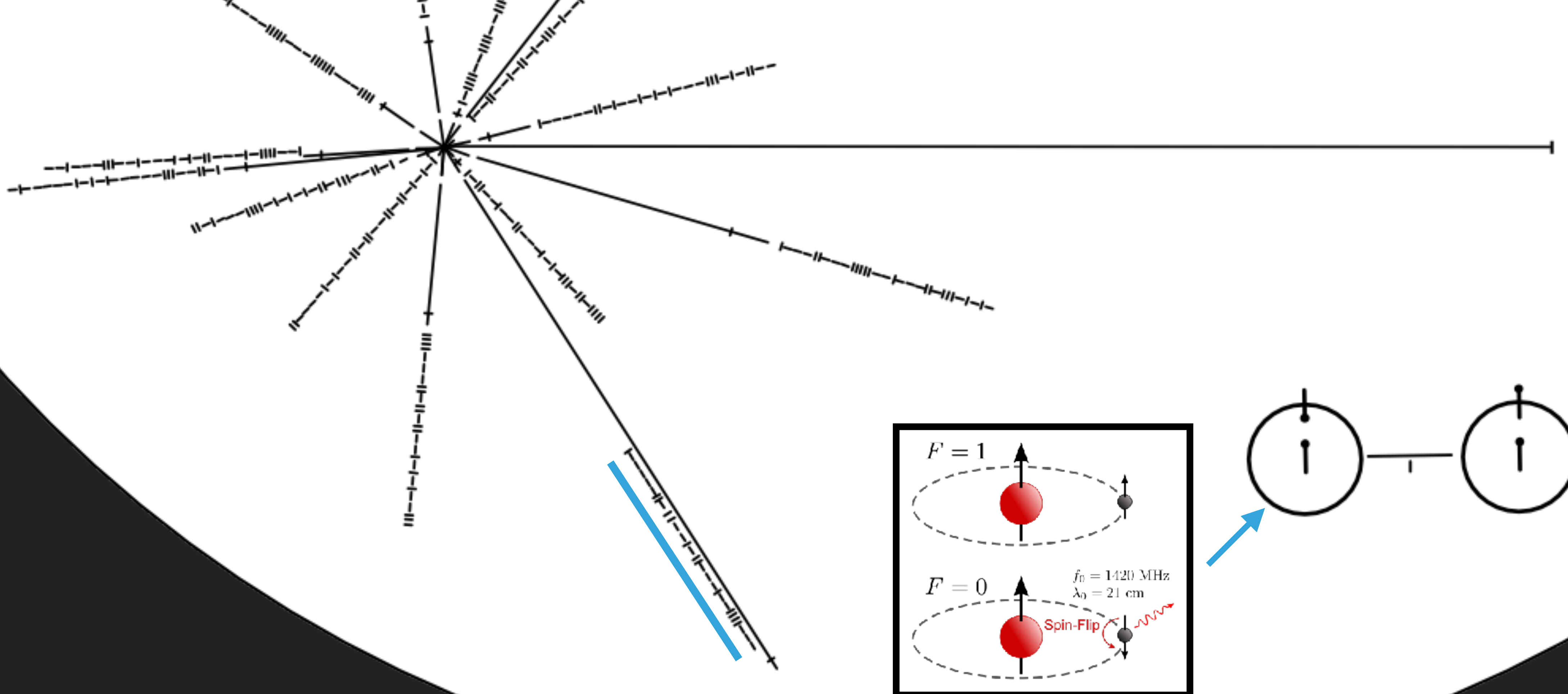
“During the 1930s, it was noticed that there was a radio 'hiss' that varied on a daily cycle and appeared to be extraterrestrial in origin. After initial suggestions that this was due to the Sun, it was observed that the radio waves seemed to propagate from the centre of the Galaxy”





$$f = 1420\text{Mhz}$$

$$d = 1/f$$

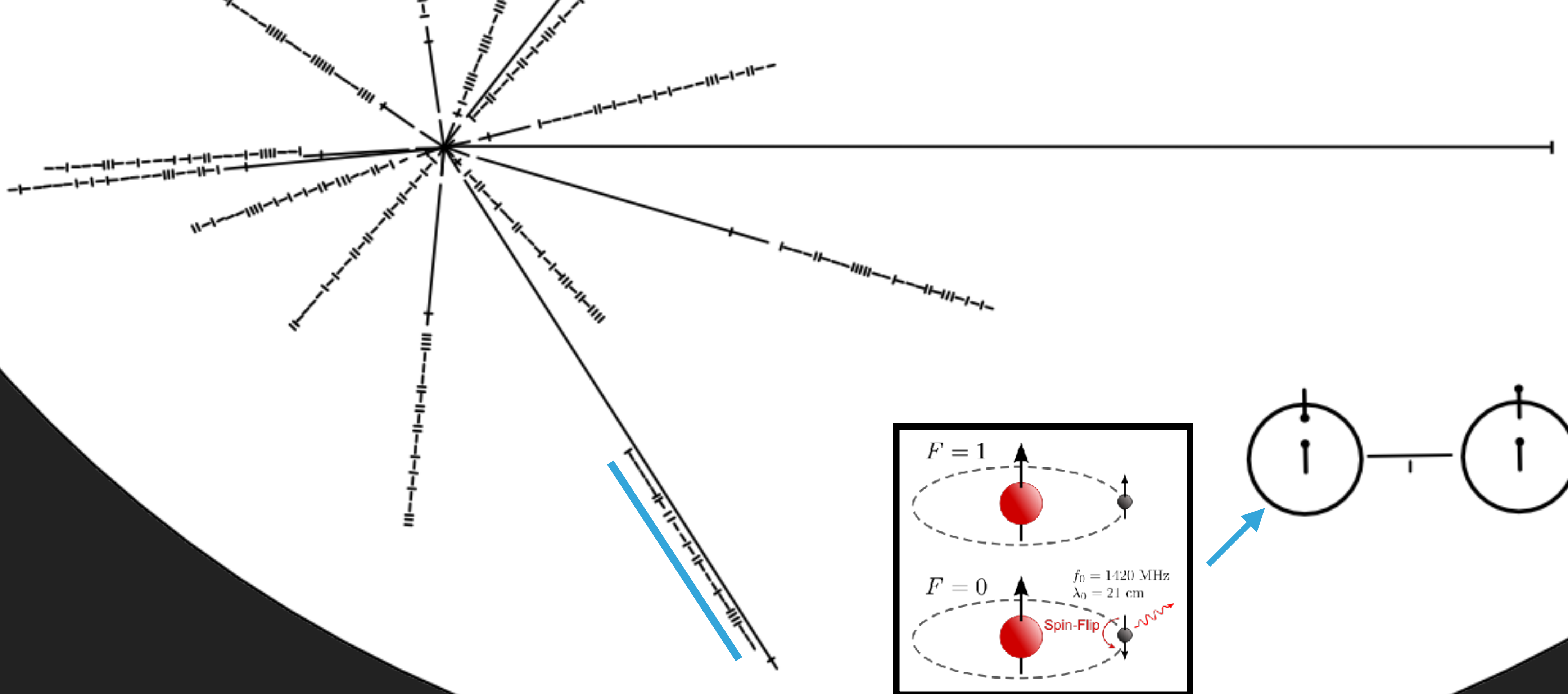


100000110110010110001001111000

$$f = 1420\text{Mhz}$$

$$d = 1/f$$

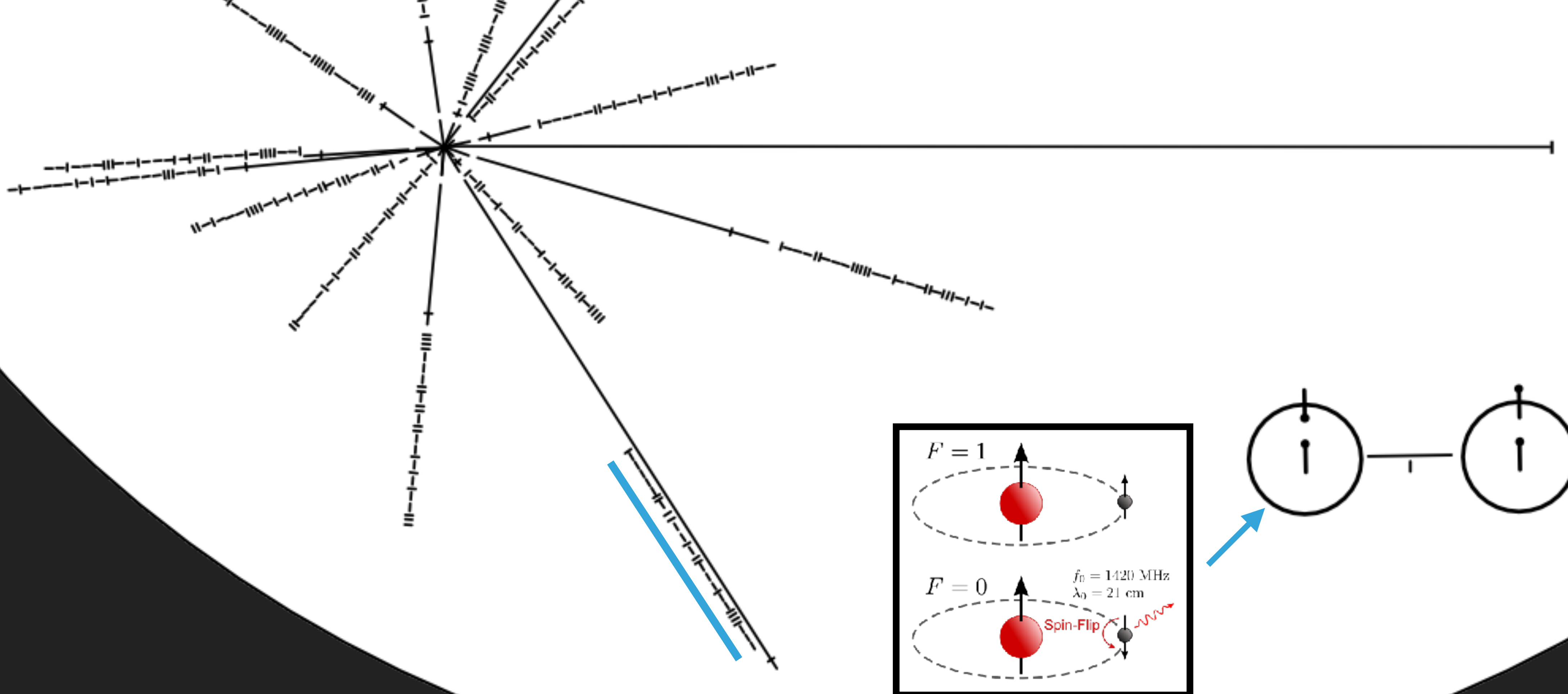




100000110110010110001001111000  
 = 551117432

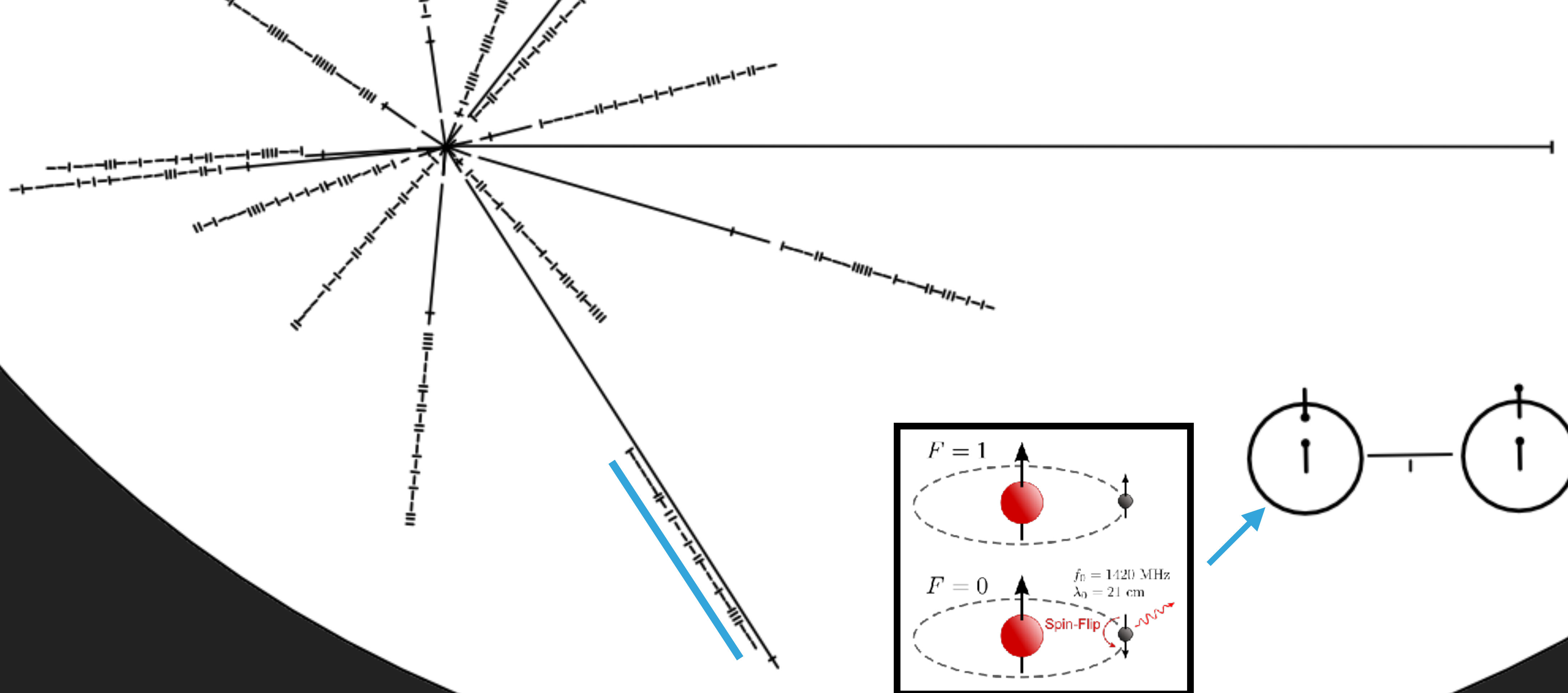
$$f = 1420\text{Mhz}$$

$$d = 1/f$$



100000110110010110001001111000  
 = 551117432 \* 1/f = .388s

$f = 1420\text{Mhz}$   
 $d = 1/f$

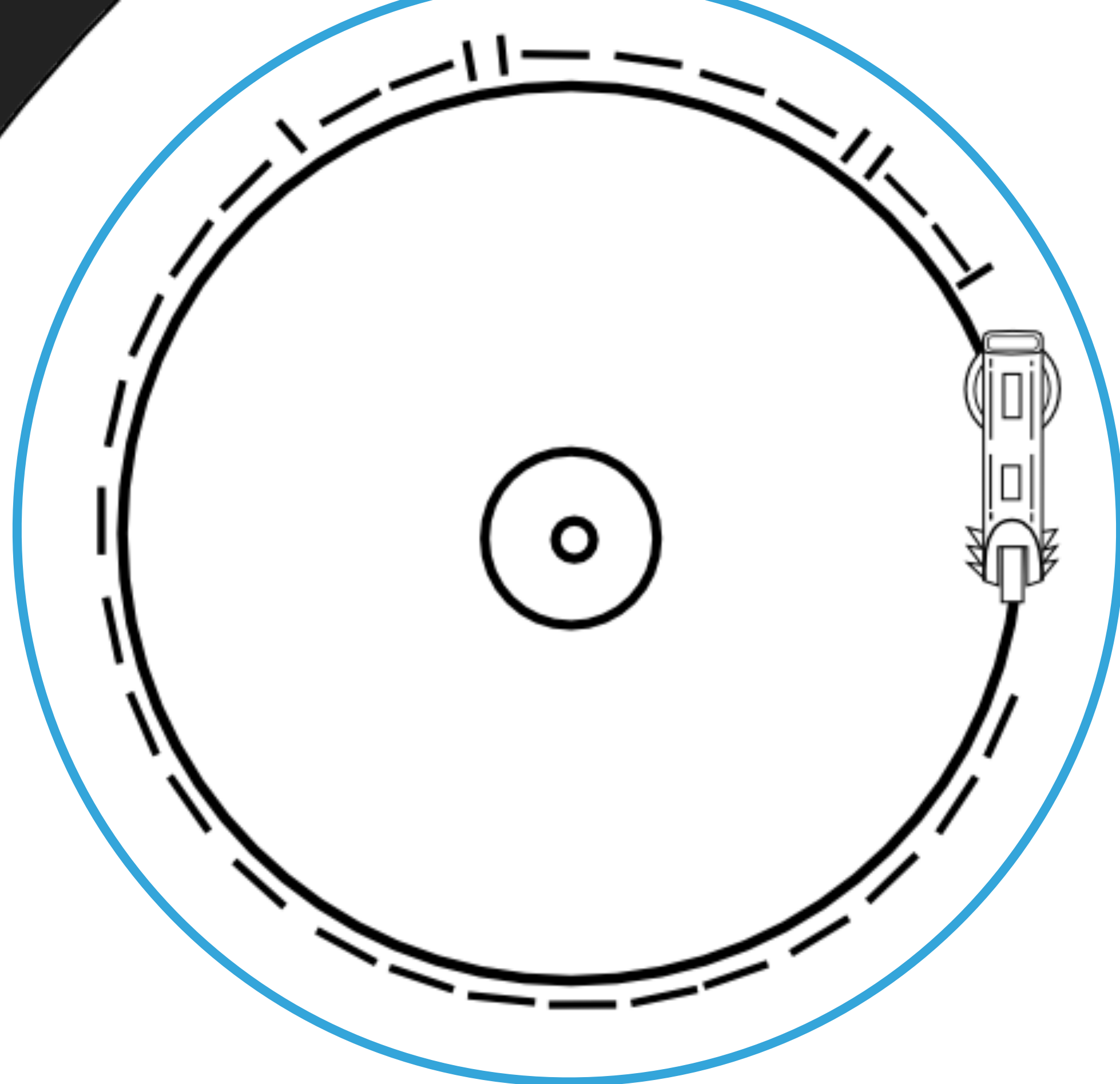


.388s = frequency of pulsar  
 "1240" (aka J1243-6423)

-wikipedia

$$f = 1420\text{Mhz}$$

$$d = 1/f$$



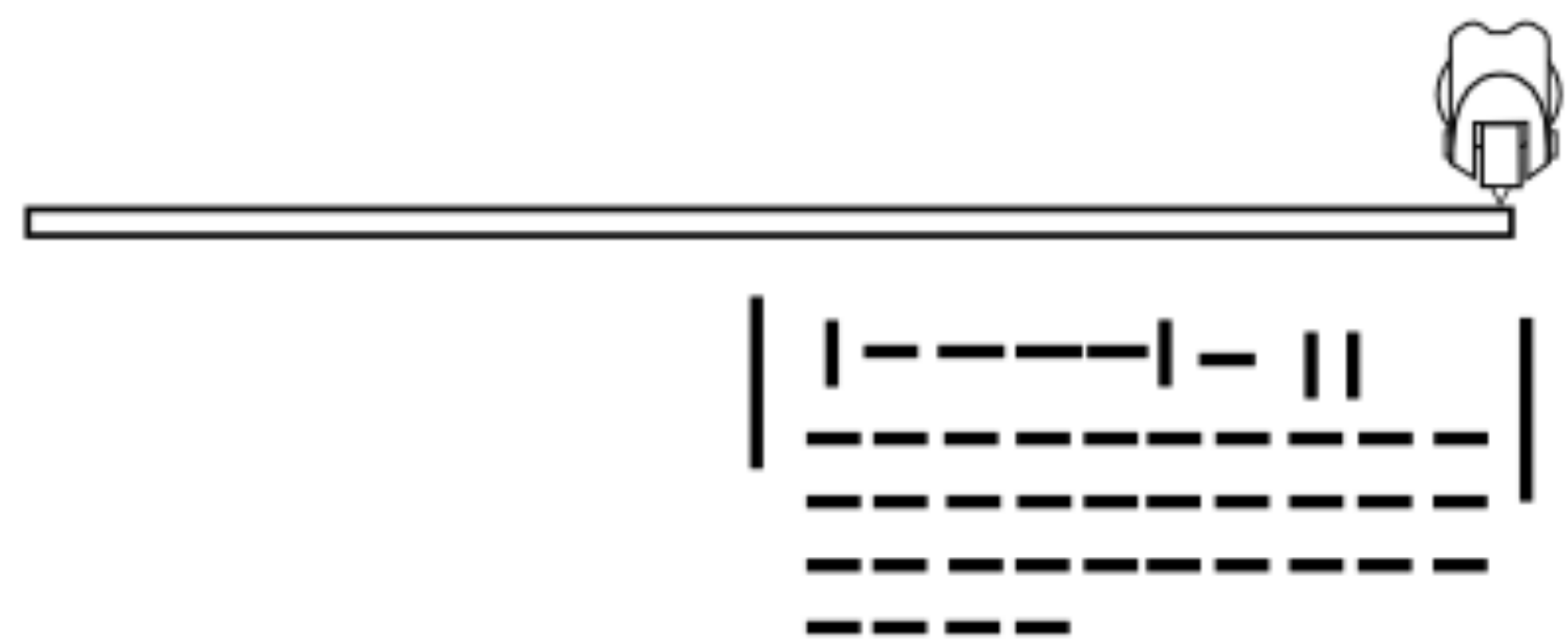
$$10011000011001000000000000000000000$$

$$= 5113380864 * 1/1420405751.7667$$

$$= 3.6 \text{ seconds / revolution}$$

$$= \sim 16 \text{ RPM}$$

100001011 0000000000 0000000000 0000000000 0000



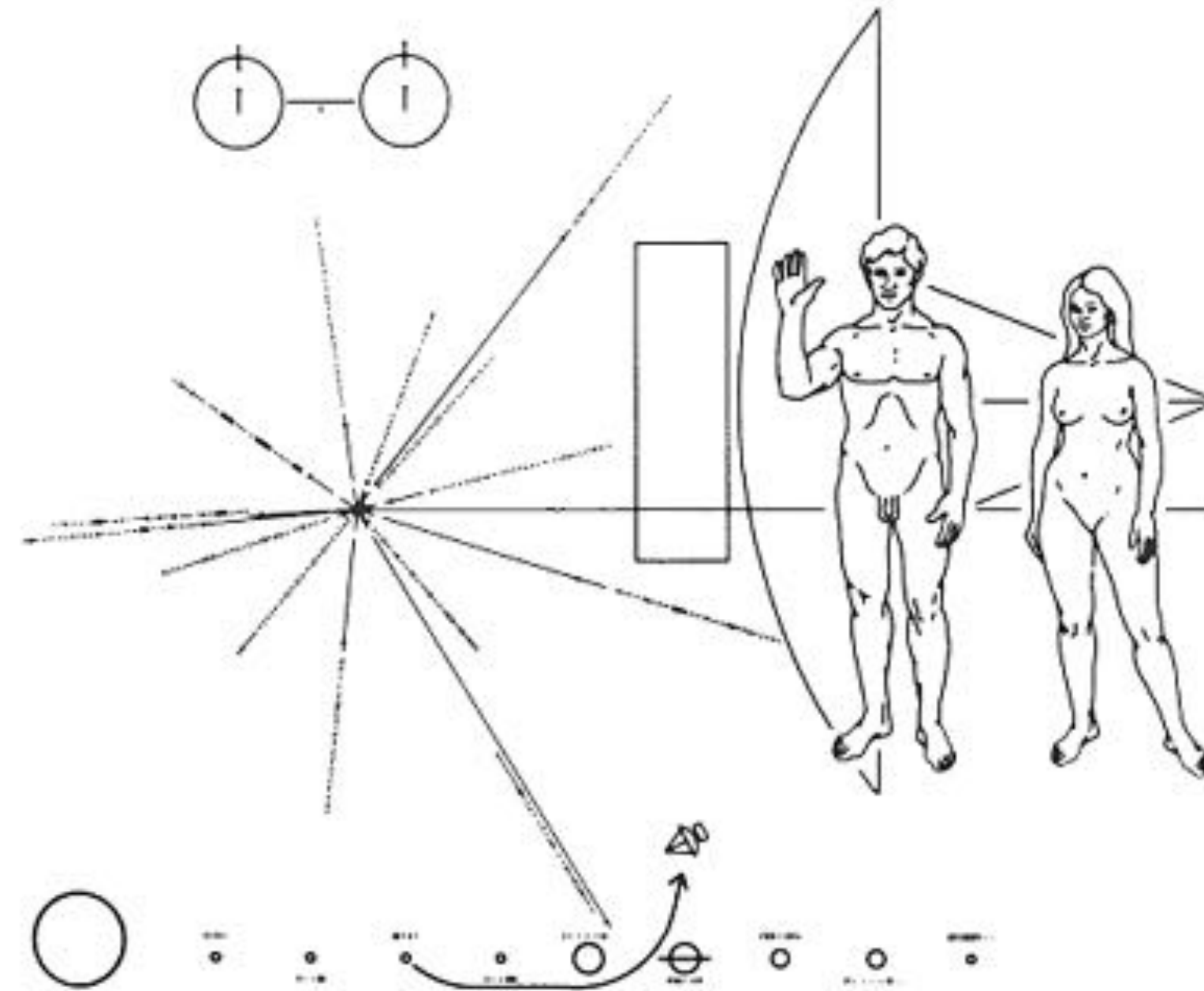
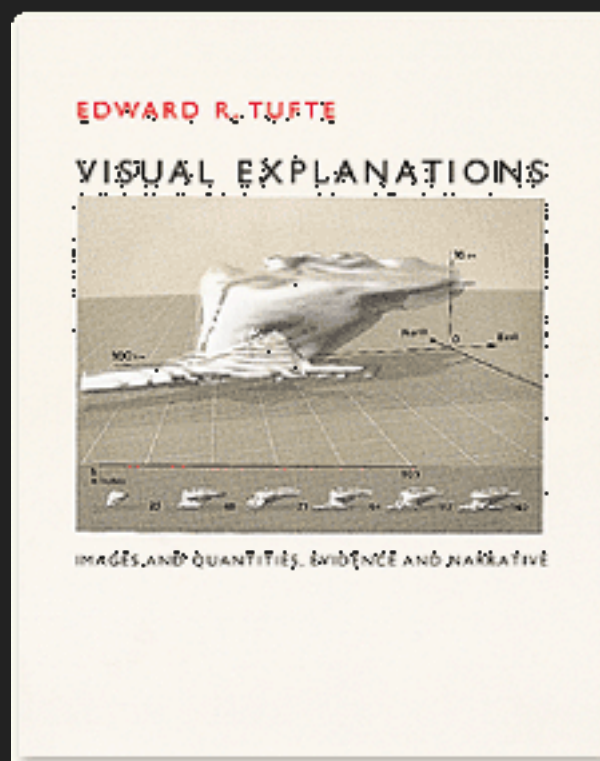
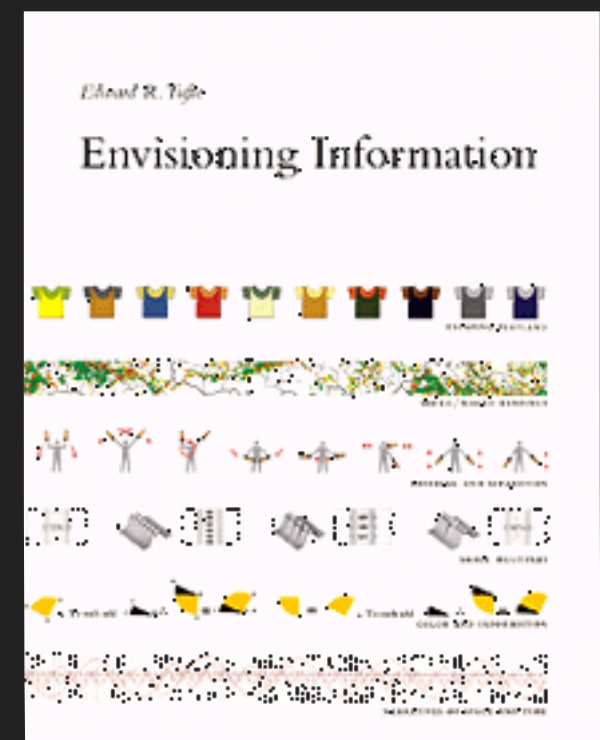
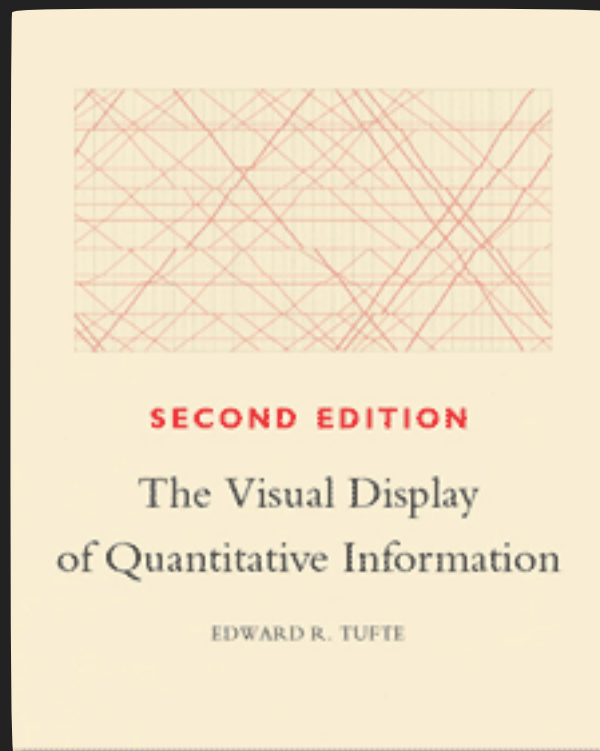
$$= 4587025072128 * 1/1420405751.7667$$

$$= 3229.3 \text{ seconds}$$

$$= \sim 54 \text{ minutes}$$

# PIONEER SPACE PLAQUE REDESIGN

EDWARD TUFTE

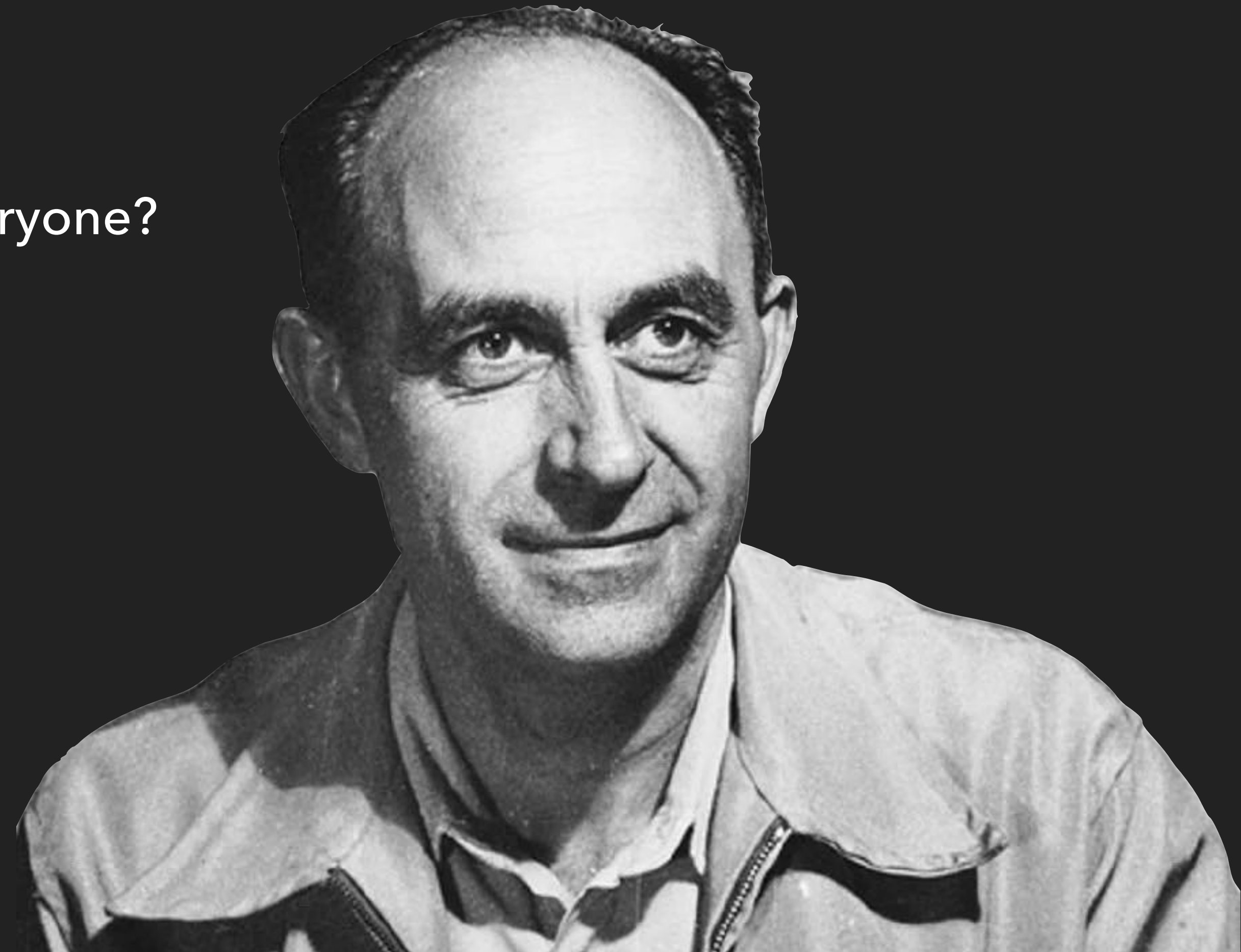


Magic, the production of entertaining illusions, has an appeal quite independent of the local specifics of language or culture. In vanishing objects or levitating assistants, conjurers amaze, delight, and even shock their audiences by the apparent violation of the universal laws of nature and our daily experience of those laws. Since the principles of physics hold everywhere, magic is conceivably a cosmological entertainment, with the wonder induced by theatrical illusions appreciated by all, regardless of planetary system. Accordingly the plaque aboard the Pioneer spacecraft for extraterrestrial scrutiny billions of years from now might have escaped from its conspicuously anthropocentric gestures by showing instead the universally familiar Amazing Levitation Trick.

<https://www.edwardtufte.com>

# FERMI PARADOX

Where is everyone?



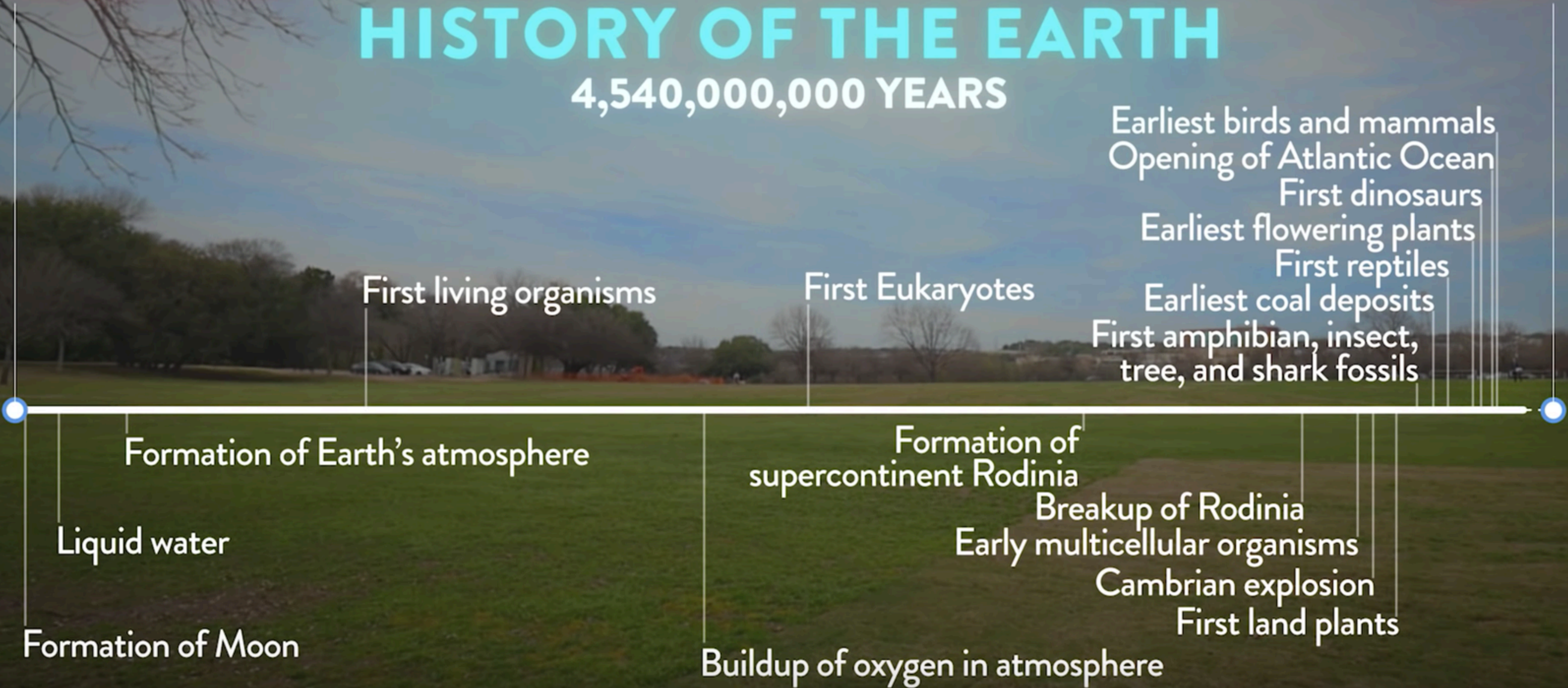


FORMATION OF THE EARTH

PRESENT DAY

# HISTORY OF THE EARTH

## 4,540,000,000 YEARS



BE SMART. SUBSCRIBE

# THE "GREAT FILTER"

FORMATION OF THE EARTH

PRESENT DAY

## HISTORY OF THE EARTH

4,540,000,000 YEARS

Oldest *possible* evidence of life could be over 4 billion years - e.g., almost ASAP

Complex cells take another ~2 billion years...

Multicellular life billions more...

First living organisms

First Eukaryotes

Earliest birds and mammals  
Opening of Atlantic Ocean  
First dinosaurs  
Earliest flowering plants  
First reptiles  
Earliest coal deposits  
First amphibian, insect, tree, and shark fossils

Formation of Earth's atmosphere

Liquid water

Formation of Moon

Formation of supercontinent Rodinia

Breakup of Rodinia  
Early multicellular organisms

Cambrian explosion

First land plants

Buildup of oxygen in atmosphere



# THE "GREAT FILTER"

In our past?



Present day

# THE "GREAT FILTER"

In our past?

Or our future?

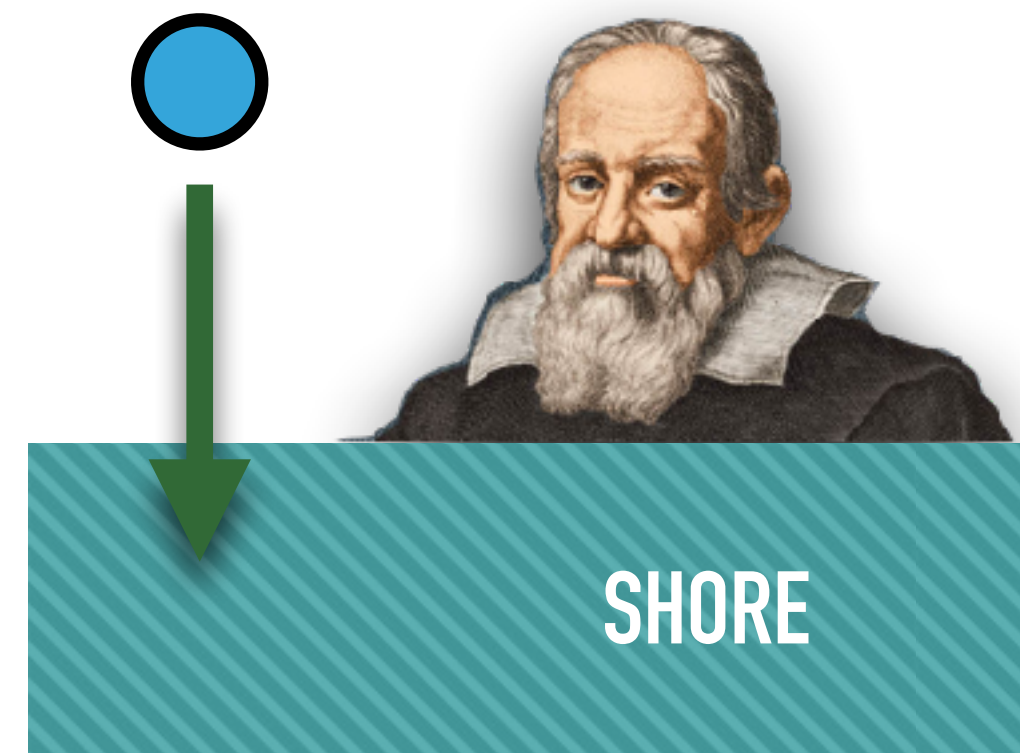
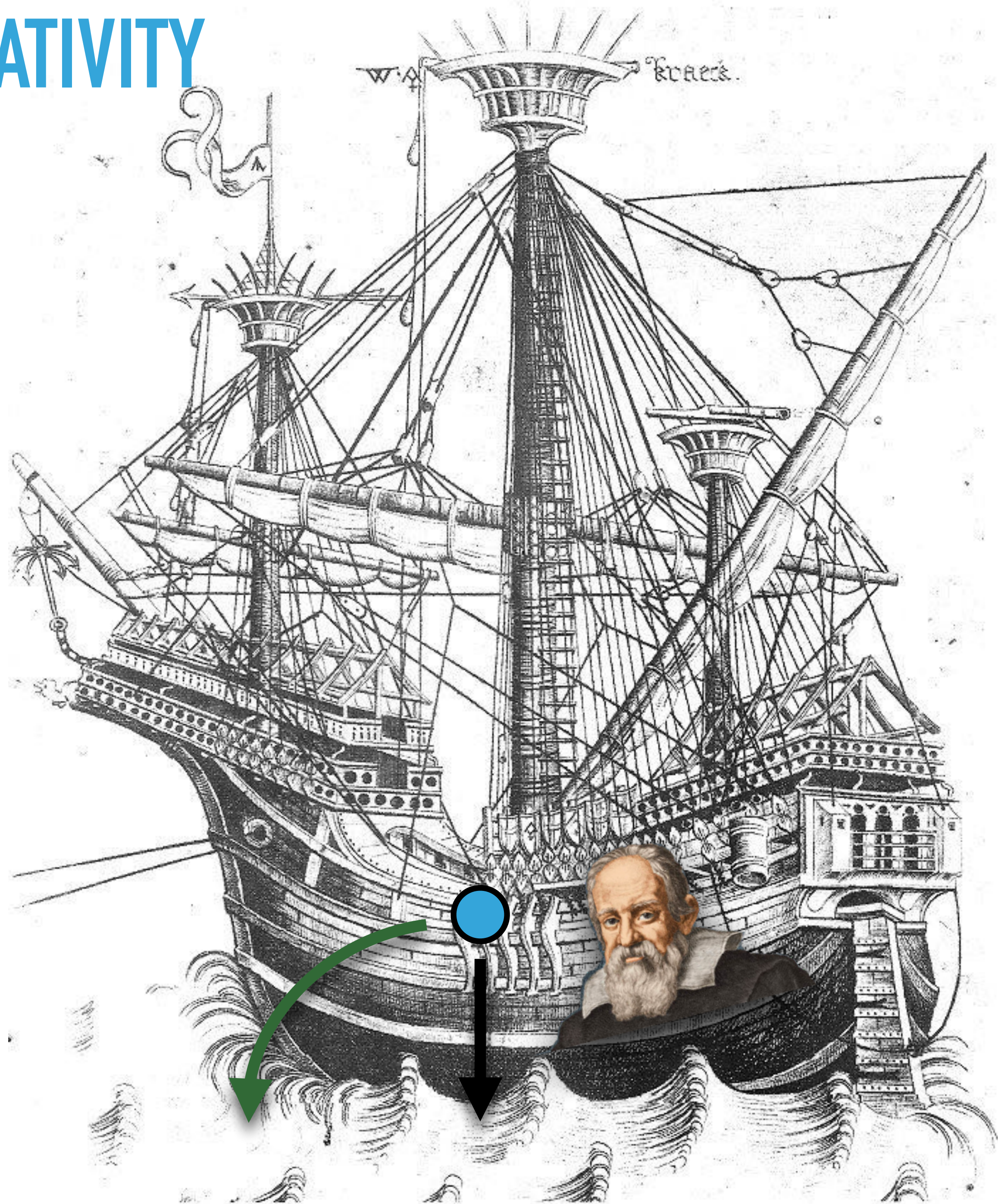
Present day





**RELATIVITY**

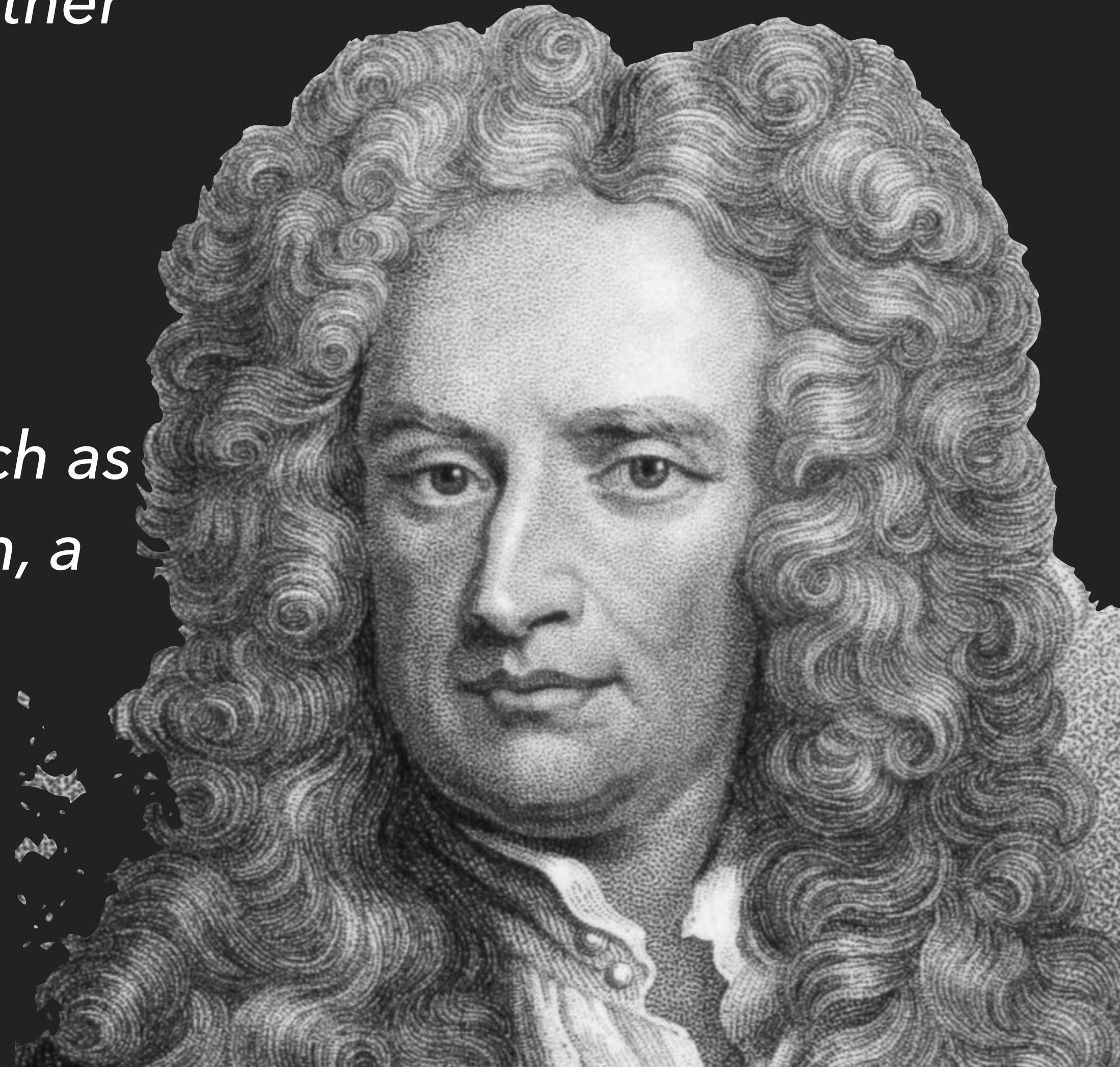
# GALILEAN RELATIVITY



SHORE

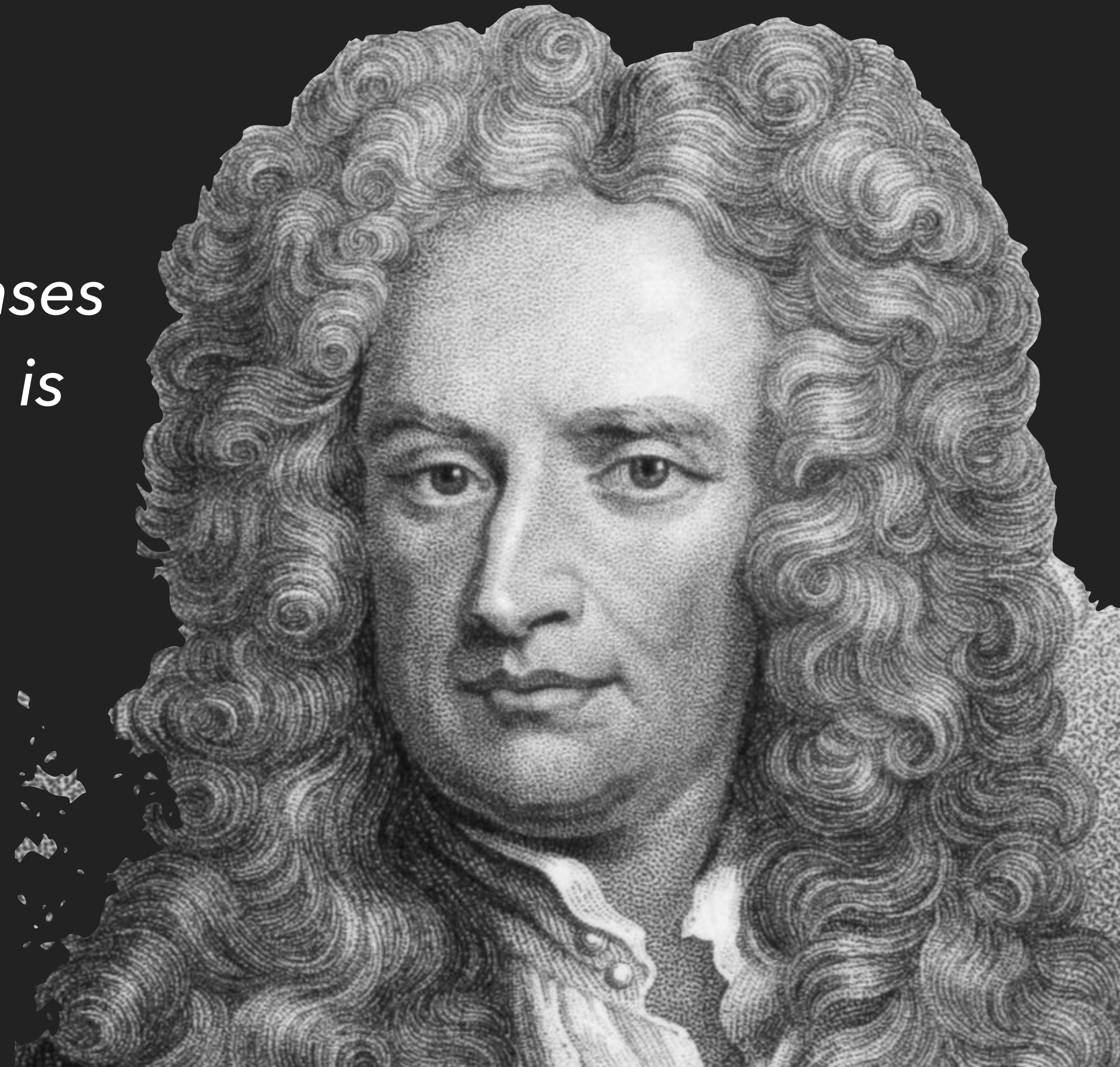
*“**Absolute, true, and mathematical time**, in and of itself and of its own nature, without reference to anything external, **flows uniformly** and by another name is called duration.*

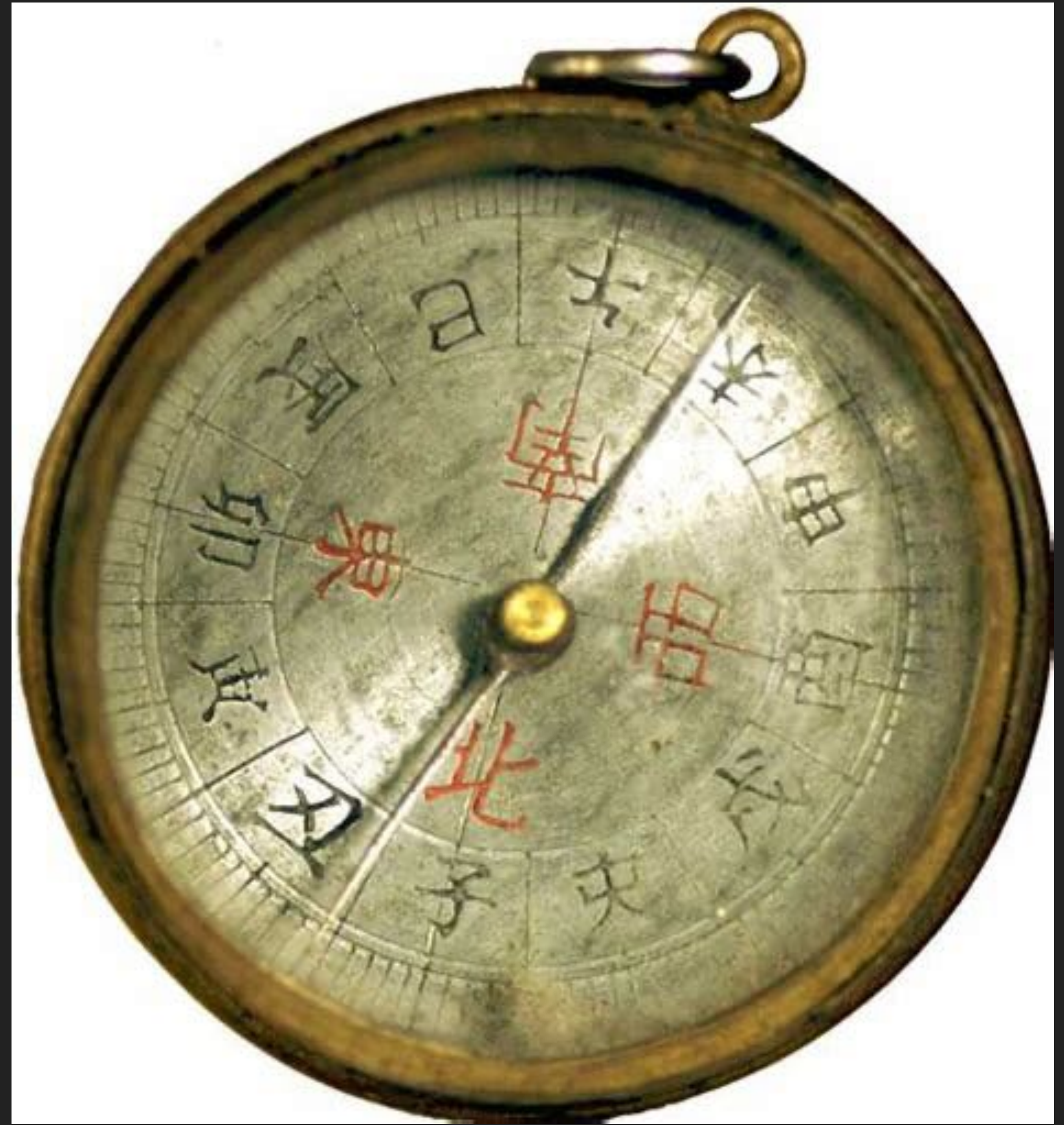
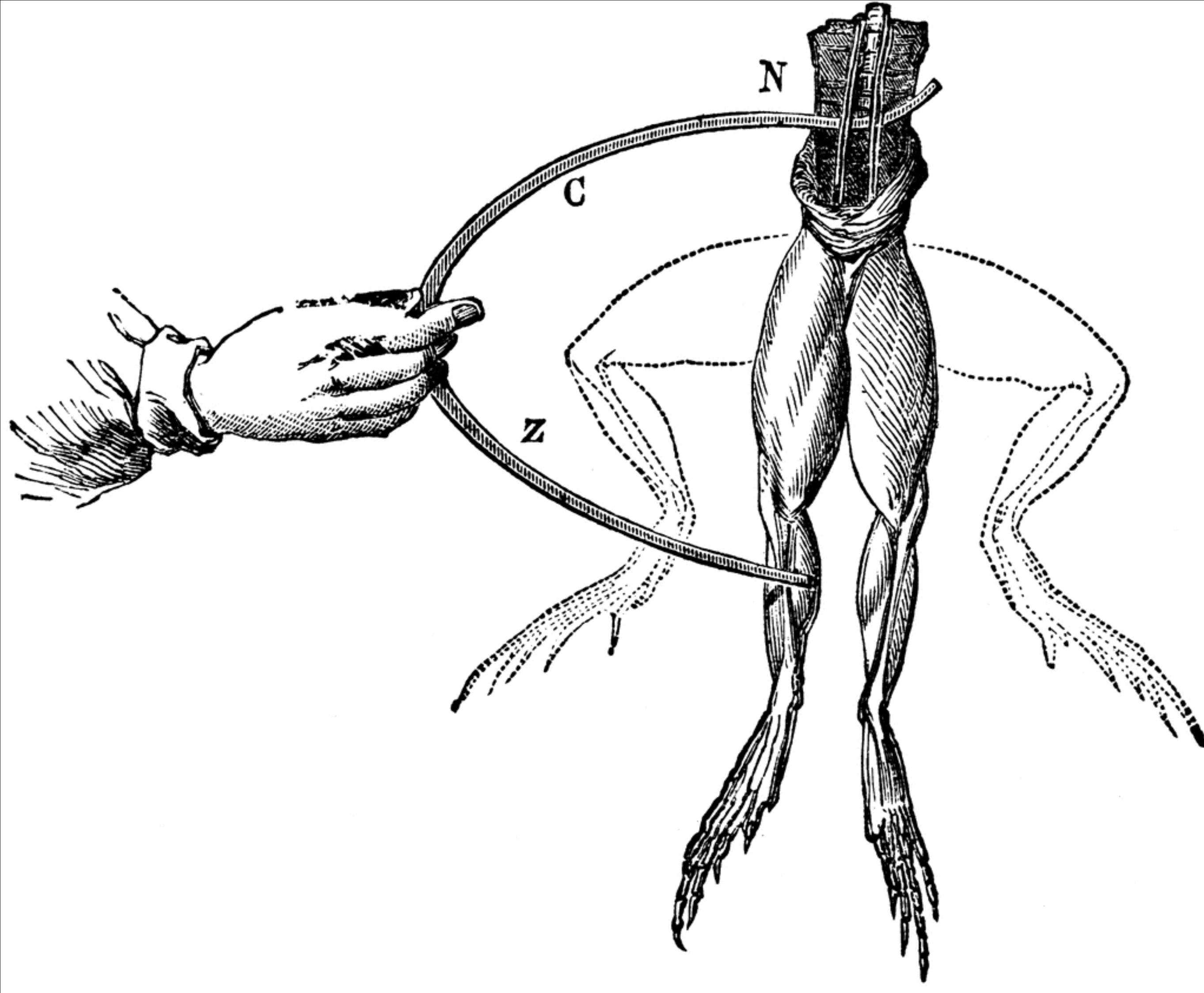
*Relative, apparent, and common time is any sensible and external measure (precise or imprecise) of duration by means of motion; such as a measure—for example, an hour, a day, a month, a year—is commonly used instead of true time.”*



***“Absolute space, in its own nature, without regard to anything external, remains always similar and immovable.***

*Relative space is some movable dimension or measure of the absolute spaces, which our senses determine by its position to bodies, and which is vulgarly taken for immovable space.”*





Electromagnetism is fundamental but also weird and subtle, and it took people a long time to figure it out

Two random examples over 3000 years

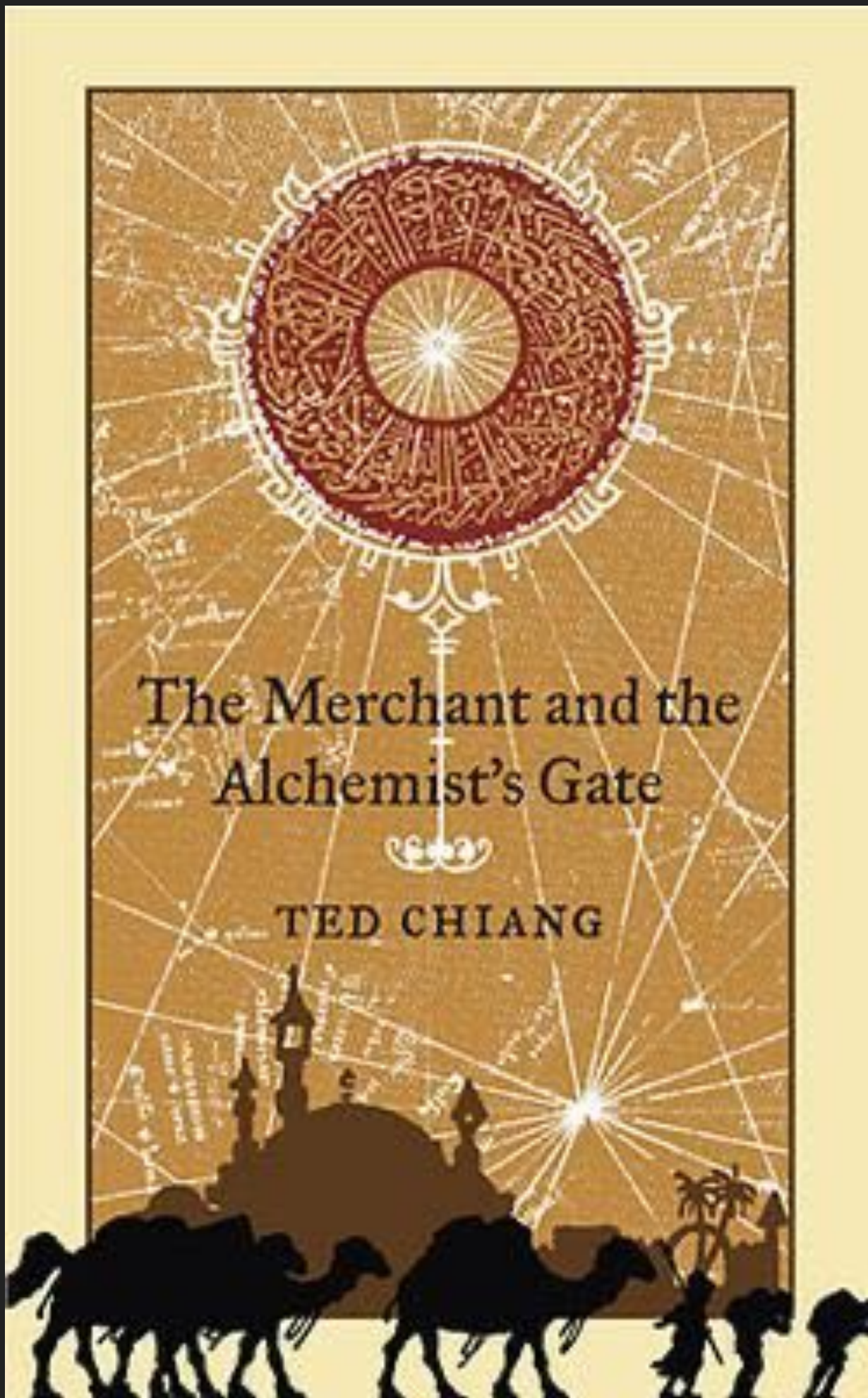


# Maxwell's Equations

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0 \qquad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = - \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

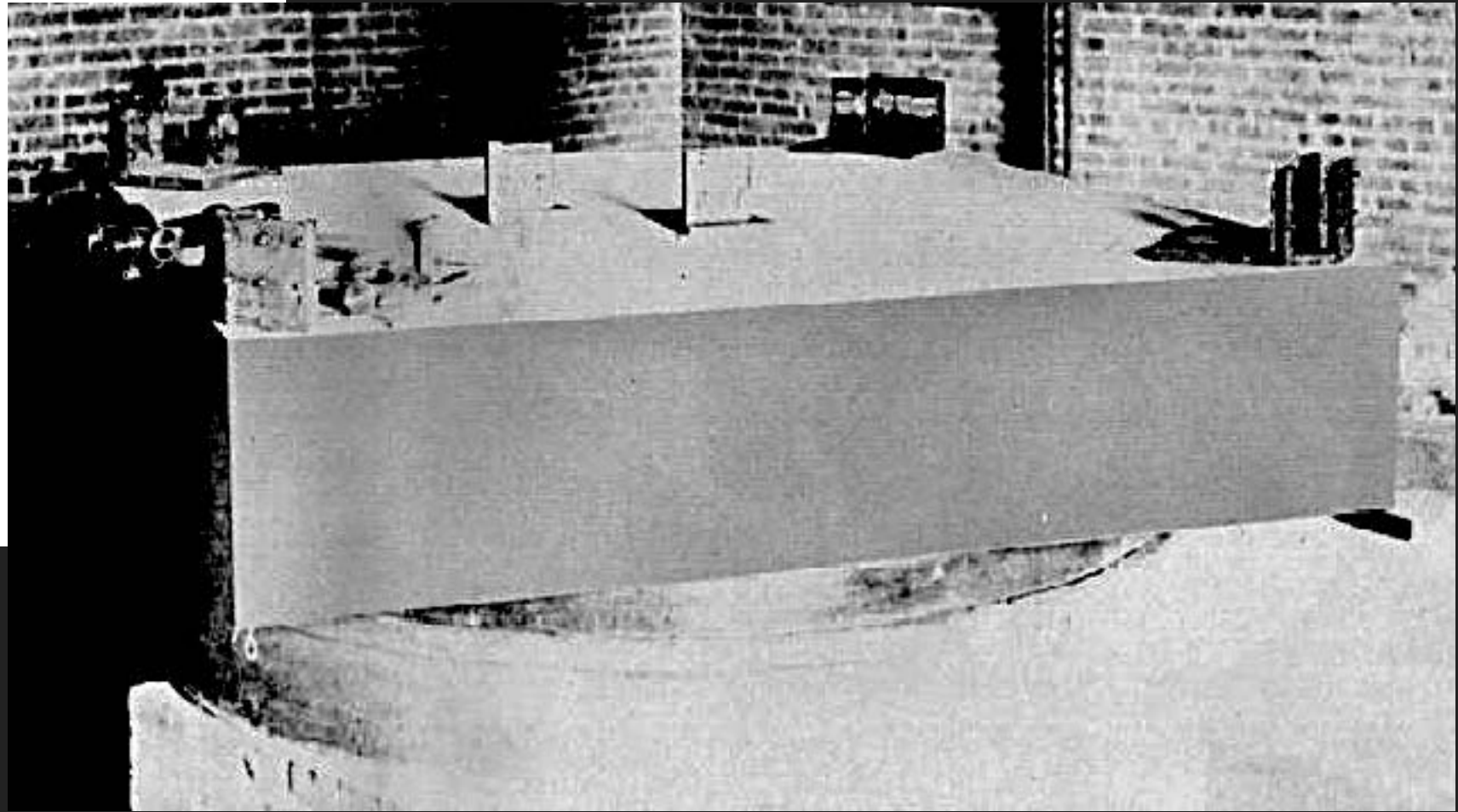
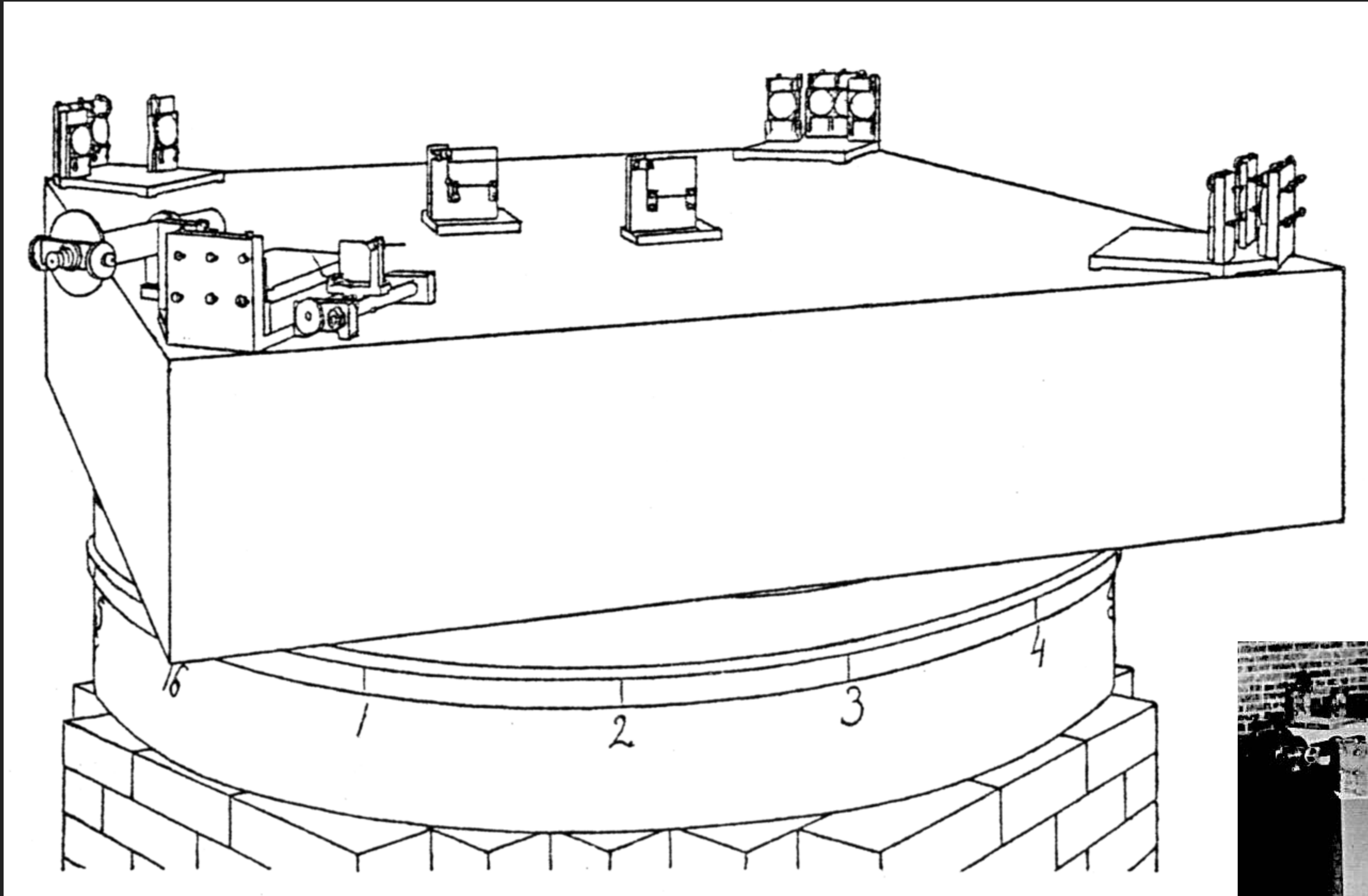
$$\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{J}$$



*'Bashaarat looked at me and considered. "I have recently built something that may change your opinion. You would be the first person I have shown it to. Would you care to see it?"*

*"It would be a great pleasure."*

*"Please follow me." He led me through the doorway in the rear of his shop. The next room was a workshop, arrayed with devices whose functions I could not guess—bars of metal wrapped with enough copper thread to reach the horizon, **mirrors mounted on a circular slab of granite floating in quicksilver**—but Bashaarat walked past these without a glance.'*



Michelson-Morley experiment, 1887



*"He handed the manuscript to me, and I saw the title was 'On the Relative Motion of the Sun and the Luminiferous Aether.' I have only a layperson's understanding of the aether, the medium that carries light waves: I know that, just as a shout carries farther when traveling with the wind than against it, **the speed of light varies relative to the Earth's own motion through the aether...** there appears to be a steady aetheric wind across the solar system as a whole..."*

From 'Omphalos' by Ted Chiang.

Image: The Omphalos ('religious stone') of Delphi, wikipedia.

# ON THE ELECTRODYNAMICS OF MOVING BODIES EINSTEIN, 1905

## 3. *Zur Elektrodynamik bewegter Körper;* *von A. Einstein.*

Daß die Elektrodynamik Maxwells — wie dieselbe gegenwärtig aufgefaßt zu werden pflegt — in ihrer Anwendung auf bewegte Körper zu Asymmetrien führt, welche den Phänomenen nicht anzuhaften scheinen, ist bekannt. Man denke z. B. an die elektrodynamische Wechselwirkung zwischen einem Magneten und einem Leiter. Das beobachtbare Phänomen hängt hier nur ab von der Relativbewegung von Leiter und Magnet, während nach der üblichen Auffassung die beiden Fälle, daß der eine oder der andere dieser Körper der bewegte sei, streng voneinander zu trennen sind. Bewegt sich nämlich der Magnet und ruht der Leiter, so entsteht in der Umgebung des Magneten ein elektrisches Feld von gewissem Energiewerte, welches an den Orten, wo sich Teile des Leiters befinden, einen Strom erzeugt. Ruht aber der Magnet und bewegt sich der Leiter, so entsteht in der Umgebung des Magneten kein elektrisches Feld, dagegen im Leiter eine elektromotorische Kraft, welcher an sich keine Energie entspricht, die aber — Gleichheit der Relativbewegung bei den beiden ins Auge gefaßten Fällen vorausgesetzt — zu elektrischen Strömen von derselben Größe und demselben Verlaufe Veranlassung gibt, wie im ersten Falle die elektrischen Kräfte.

Beispiele ähnlicher Art, sowie die mißlungenen Versuche, eine Bewegung der Erde relativ zum „Lichtmedium“ zu konstatieren, führen zu der Vermutung, daß dem Begriffe der absoluten Ruhe nicht nur in der Mechanik, sondern auch in der Elektrodynamik keine Eigenschaften der Erscheinungen entsprechen, sondern daß vielmehr für alle Koordinatensysteme, für welche die mechanischen Gleichungen gelten, auch die gleichen elektrodynamischen und optischen Gesetze gelten, wie dies für die Größen erster Ordnung bereits erwiesen ist. Wir wollen diese Vermutung (deren Inhalt im folgenden „Prinzip der Relativität“ genannt werden wird) zur Voraussetzung erheben und außerdem die mit ihm nur scheinbar unverträgliche



# ON THE ELECTRODYNAMICS OF MOVING BODIES

EINSTEIN, 1905

New t  
New x  
Same y  
Same z

$$\xi = a \frac{c^2}{c^2 - v^2} x'.$$

In an analogous manner we find, by considering rays moving along the two other axes, that

$$\eta = c\tau = ac \left( t - \frac{v}{c^2 - v^2} x' \right)$$

when

$$\frac{y}{\sqrt{c^2 - v^2}} = t, \quad x' = 0.$$

Thus

$$\eta = a \frac{c}{\sqrt{c^2 - v^2}} y \quad \text{and} \quad \zeta = a \frac{c}{\sqrt{c^2 - v^2}} z.$$

Substituting for  $x'$  its value, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \tau &= \phi(v)\beta(t - vx/c^2), \\ \xi &= \phi(v)\beta(x - vt), \\ \eta &= \phi(v)y, \\ \zeta &= \phi(v)z, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\beta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}},$$



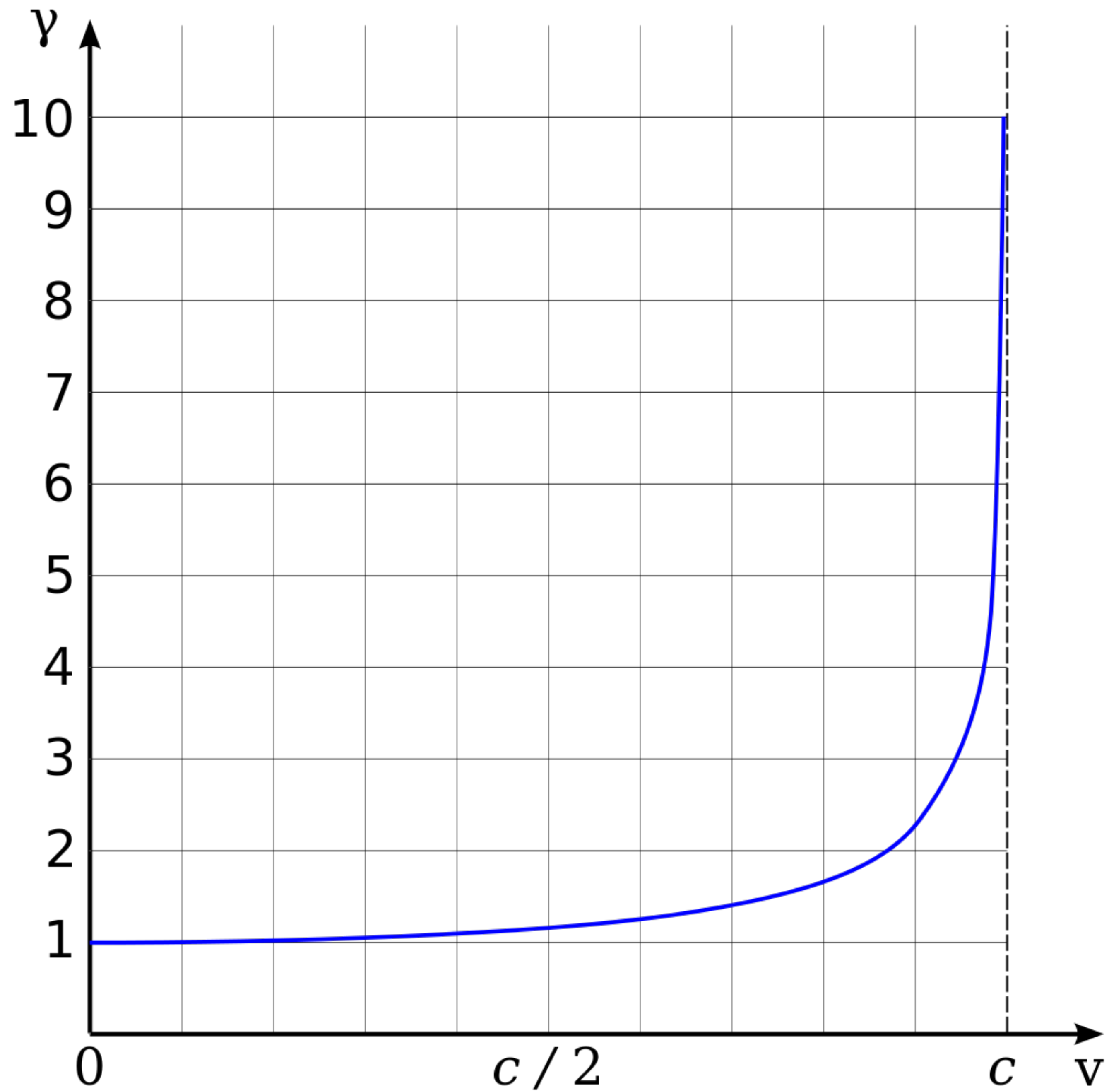
# ON THE ELECTRODYNAMICS OF MOVING BODIES

EINSTEIN, 1905

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}$$

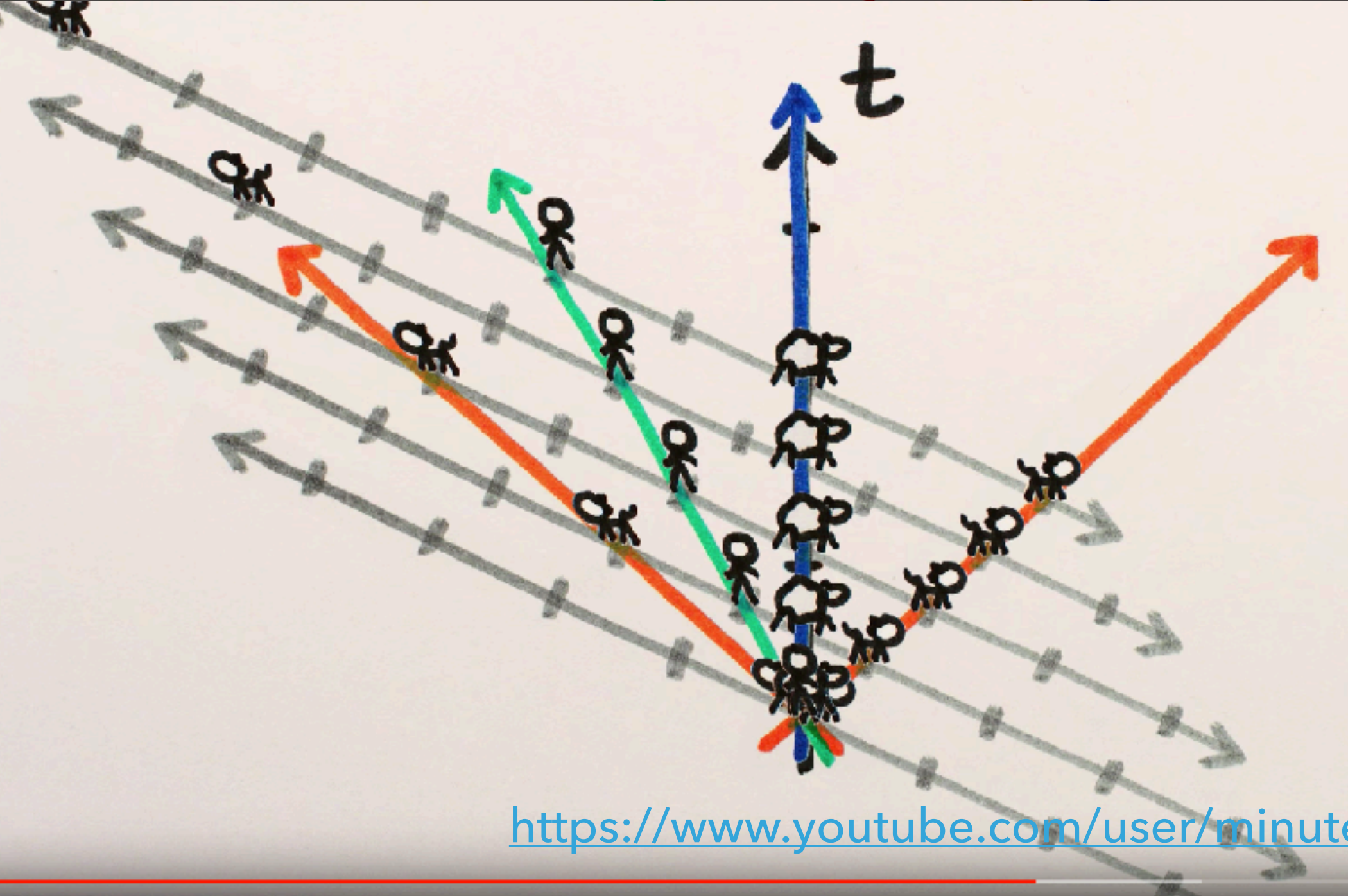
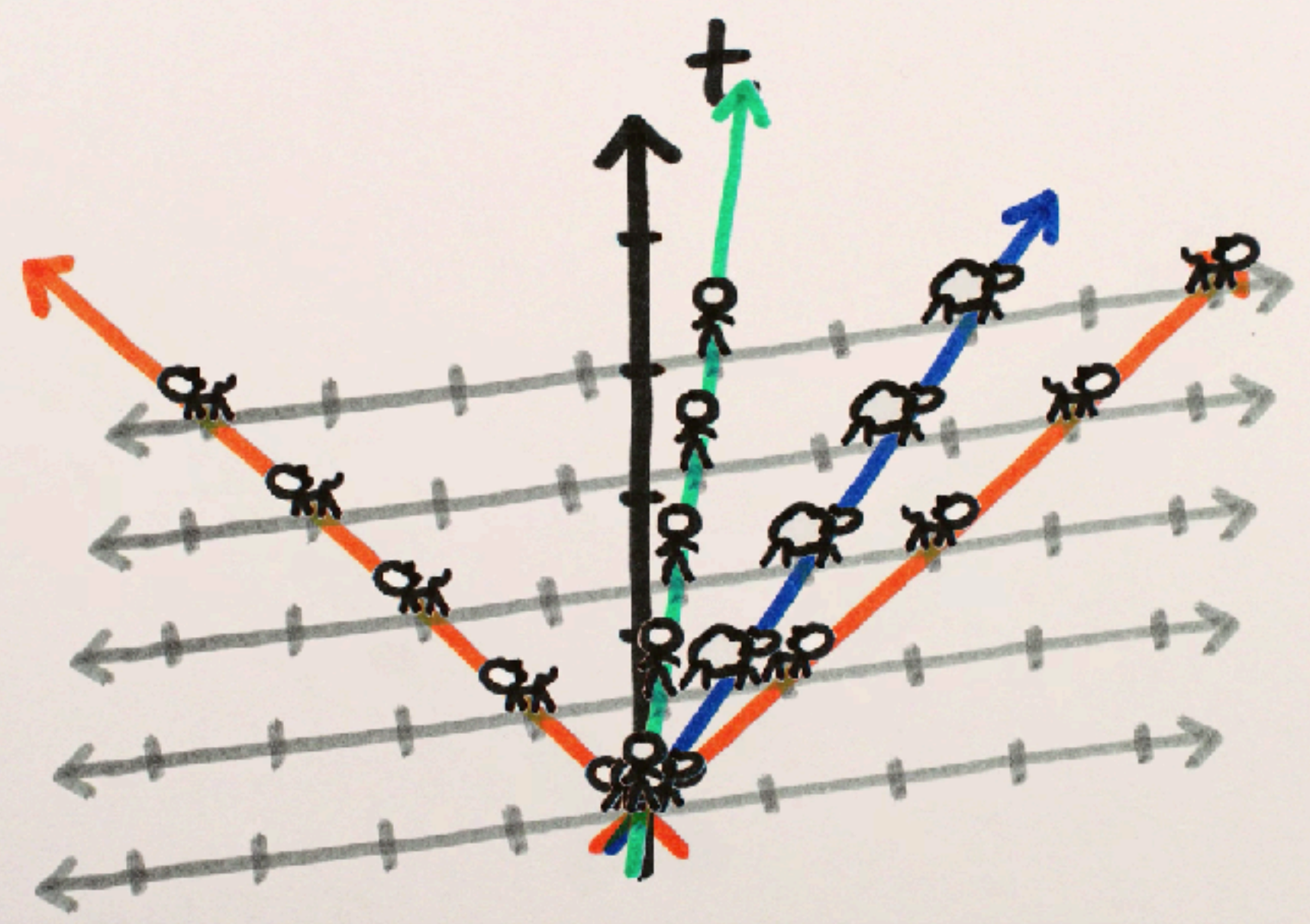
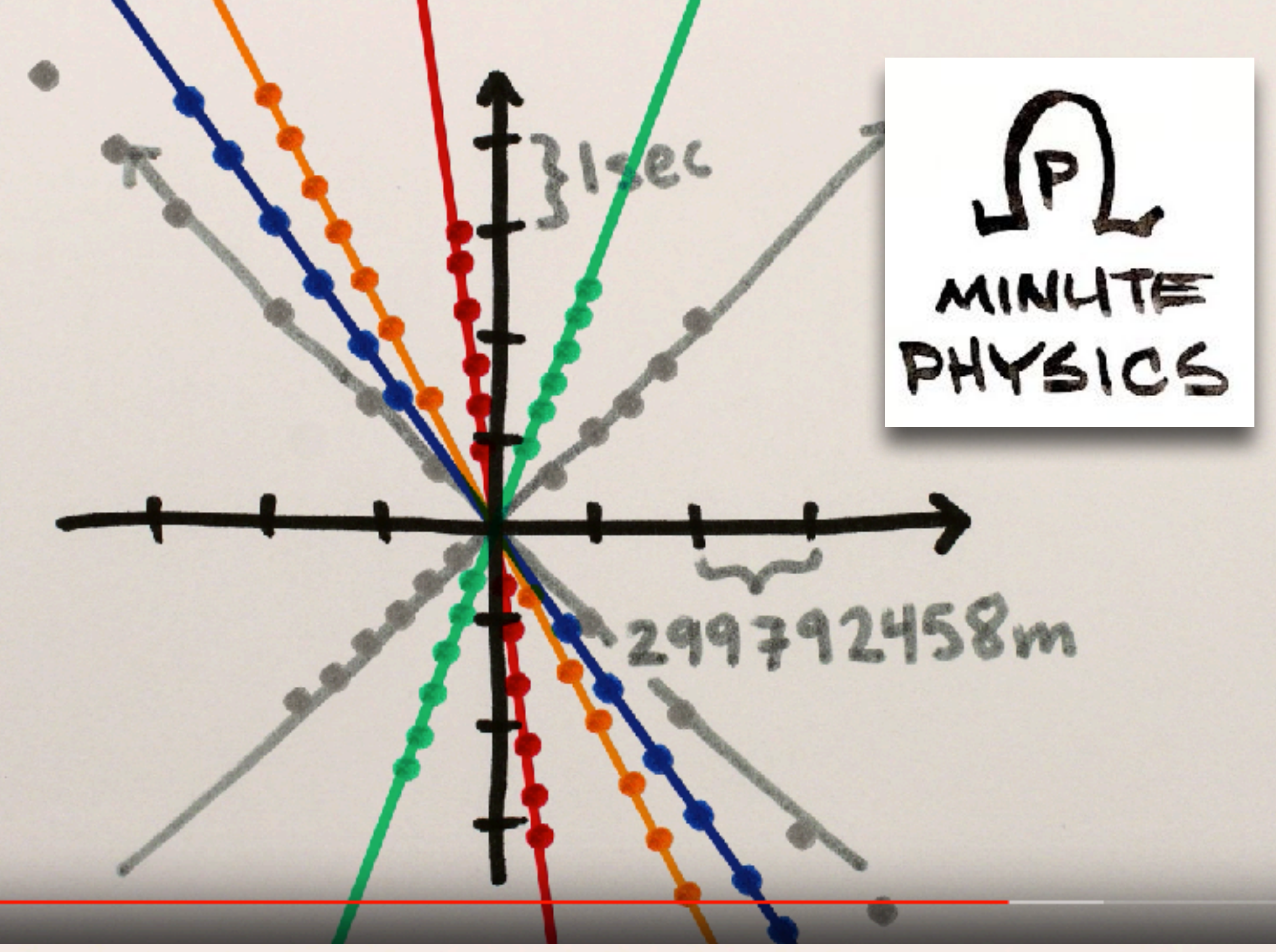
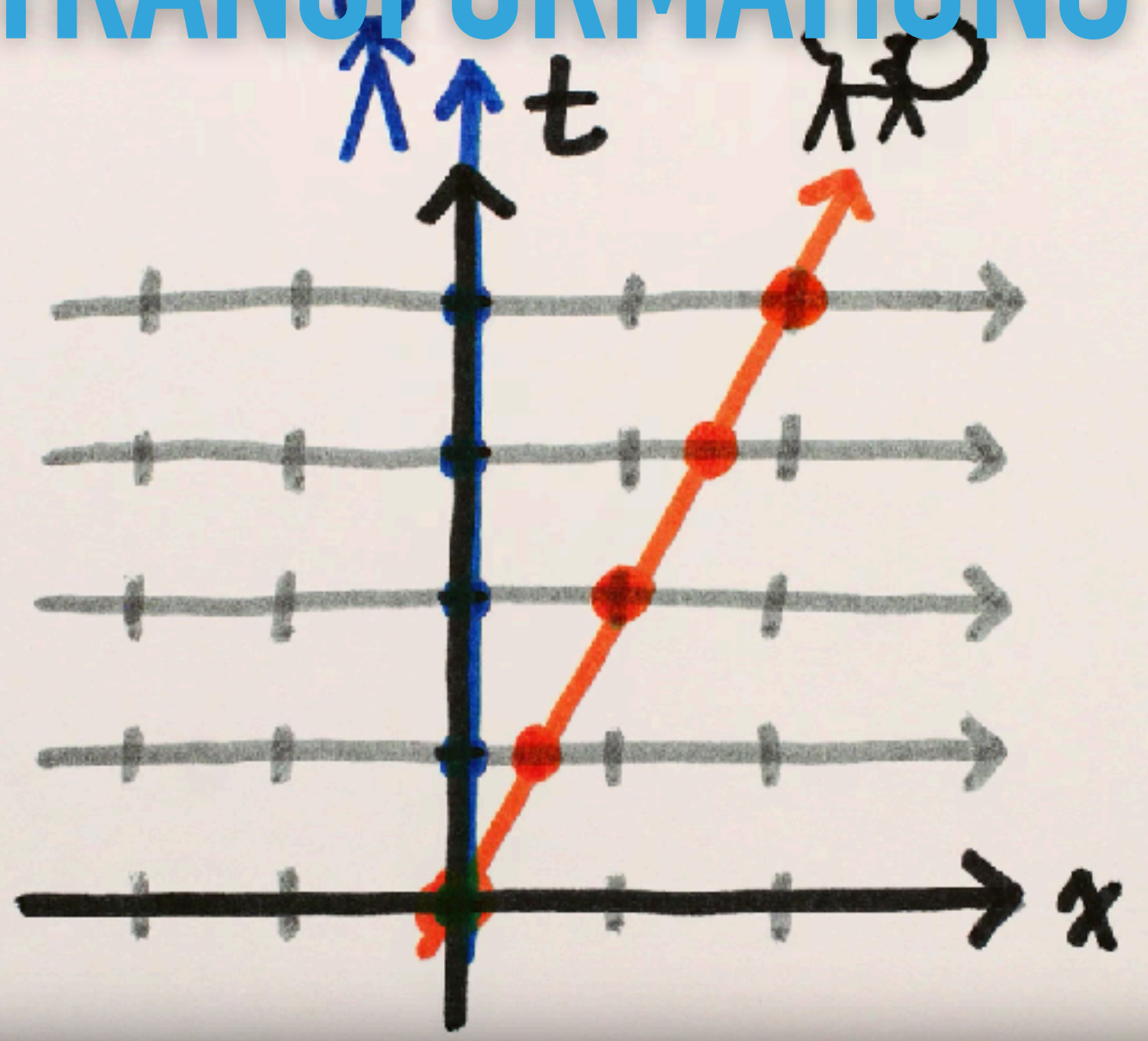
$v^2 / c^2 \approx 0$  for all "normal" velocities,  
so this factor is usually  $\approx 1$



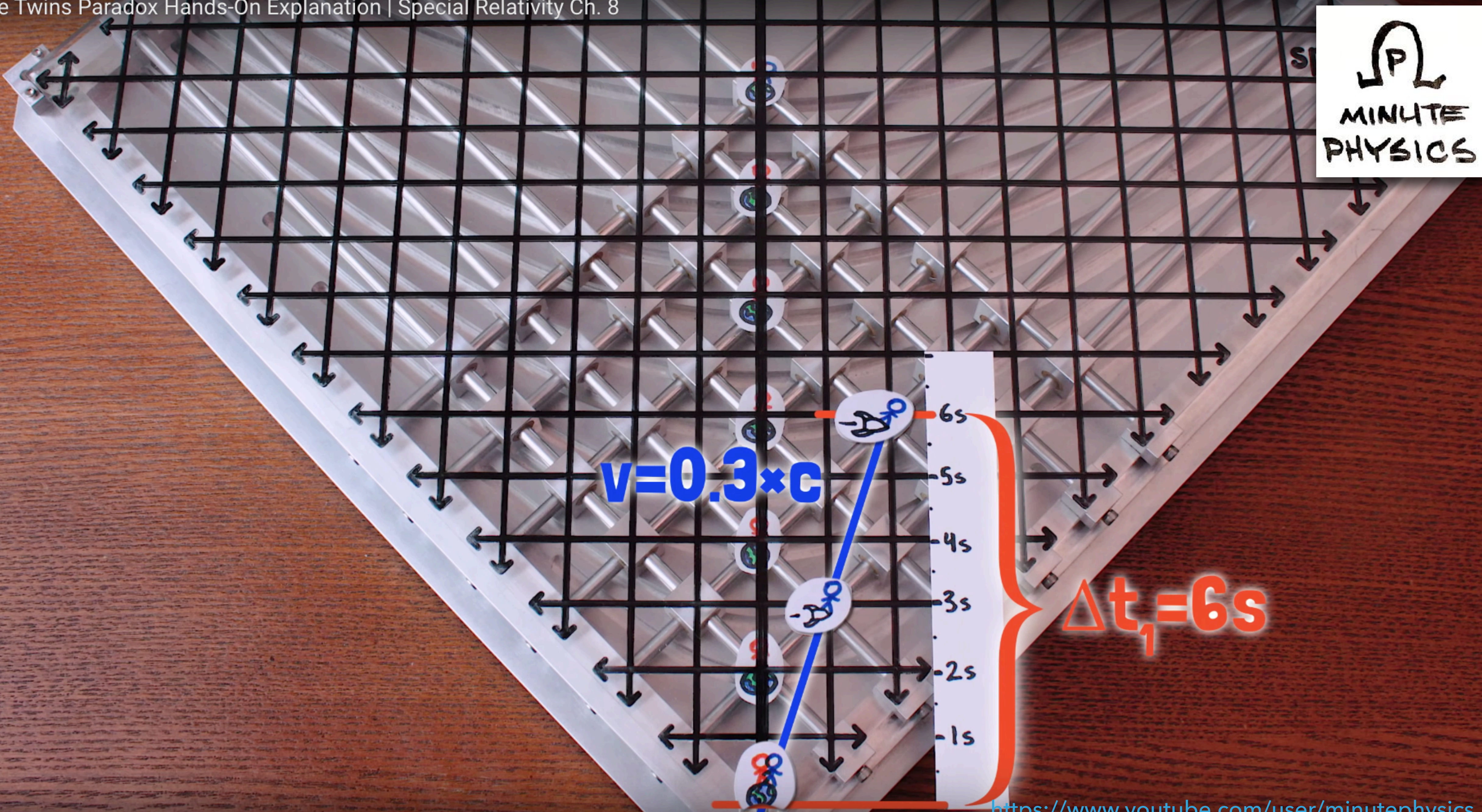
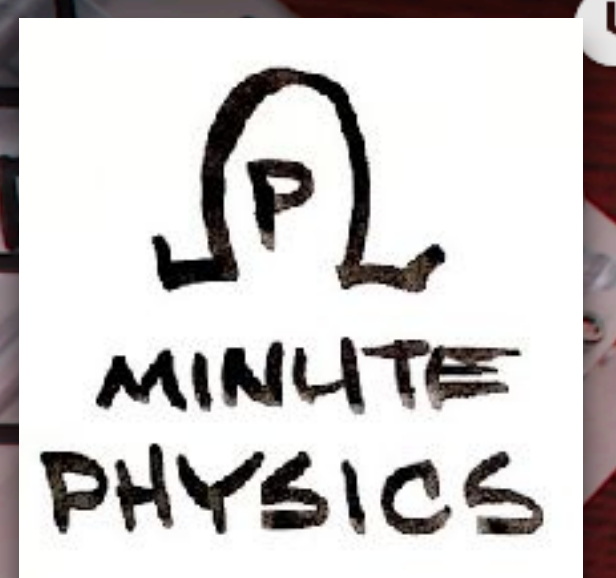




# LORENTZ TRANSFORMATIONS



<https://www.youtube.com/user/minutephysics>



<https://www.youtube.com/user/minutephysics>

# THE "PLANET OF THE APES" PRINCIPLE

**SOMEWHERE IN THE UNIVERSE THERE MUST BE SOMETHING BETTER THAN MAN.**  
IN A MATTER OF TIME, AN ASTRONAUT WILL WING THROUGH THE CENTURIES AND FIND THE ANSWER.  
HE MAY FIND THE MOST TERRIFYING ONE OF ALL ON THE PLANET WHERE APES ARE THE RULERS AND MAN THE BEAST.

An unusual  
and important  
motion picture  
from the  
author of  
"the Bridge  
on the  
River Kwai"!



IN AN ARTHUR P. JACOBS PRODUCTION

20th Century-Fox presents

CHARLTON HESTON

**PLANET OF THE APES** PANAVISION® Colour by DE LUXE

CO-STARRING RODDY McDOWALL · MAURICE EVANS · KIM HUNTER · JAMES WHITMORE · JAMES DALY · LINDA HARRISON  
INTRODUCING AS NOVA

PRODUCED BY APJAC PRODUCTIONS ASSOCIATE PRODUCER MORT ABRAHAMS DIRECTED BY FRANKLIN J. SCHAFFNER SCREENPLAY BY MICHAEL WILSON AND ROD SERLING MUSIC BY JERRY GOLDSMITH BASED ON A NOVEL BY PIERRE BOULLE

Moving clocks  
"run slow"  
compared to a  
"stationary"  
clock

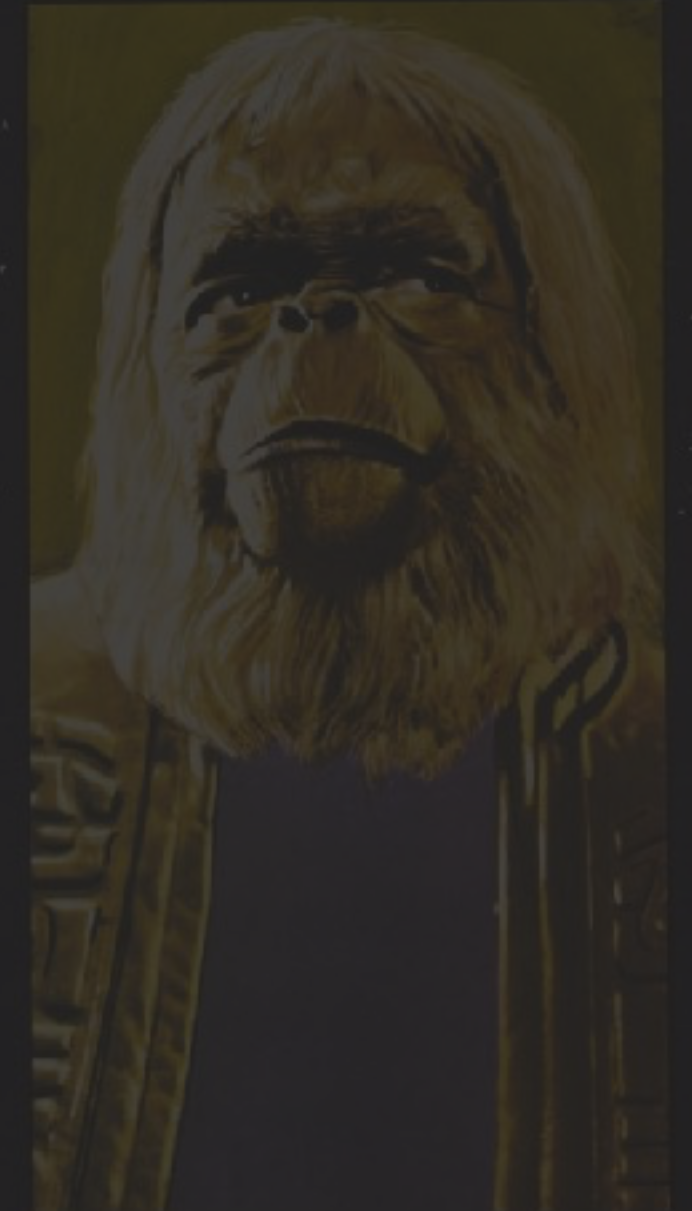
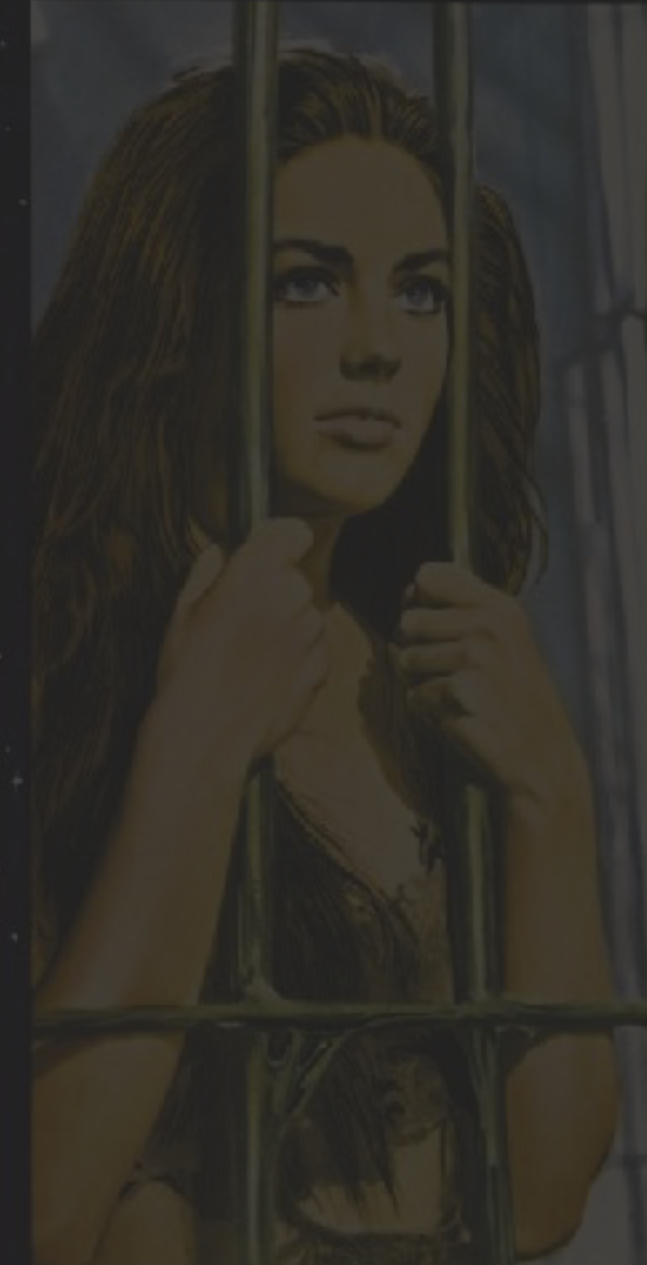
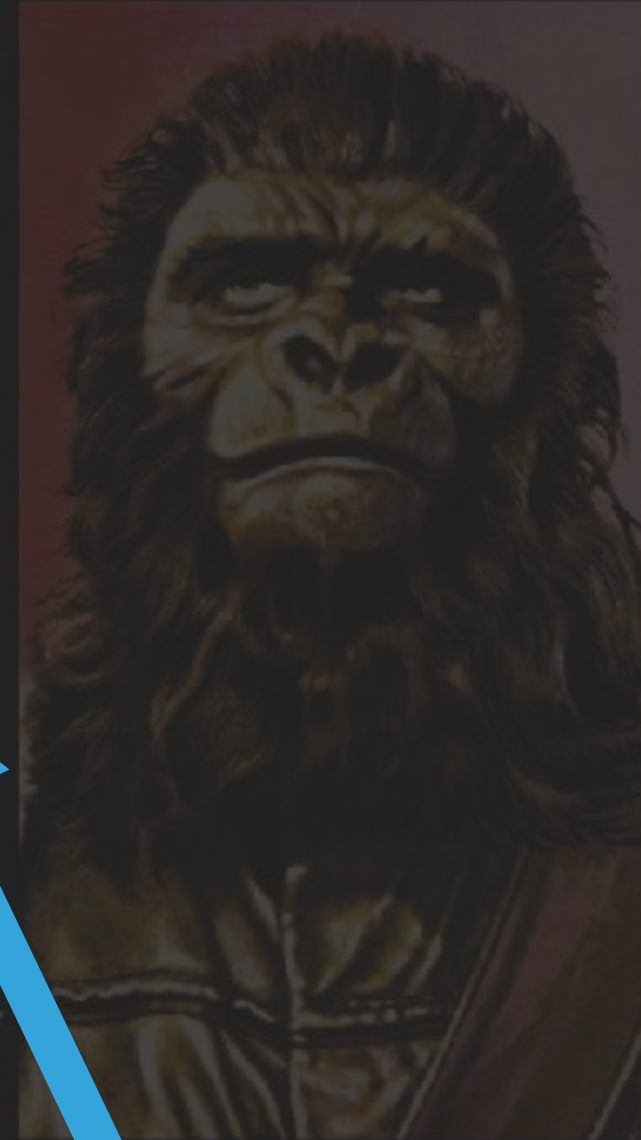
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AS NOVA

PRODUCED BY APJAC PRODUCTIONS ASSOCIATE PRODUCER MORT ABRAHAM DIRECTED BY FRANKLIN J. SCHAFFNER  
MUSIC BY JERRY GOLDSMITH BASED ON A NOVEL BY PIERRE BOULLE

Spends 1 year in  
suspended  
animation

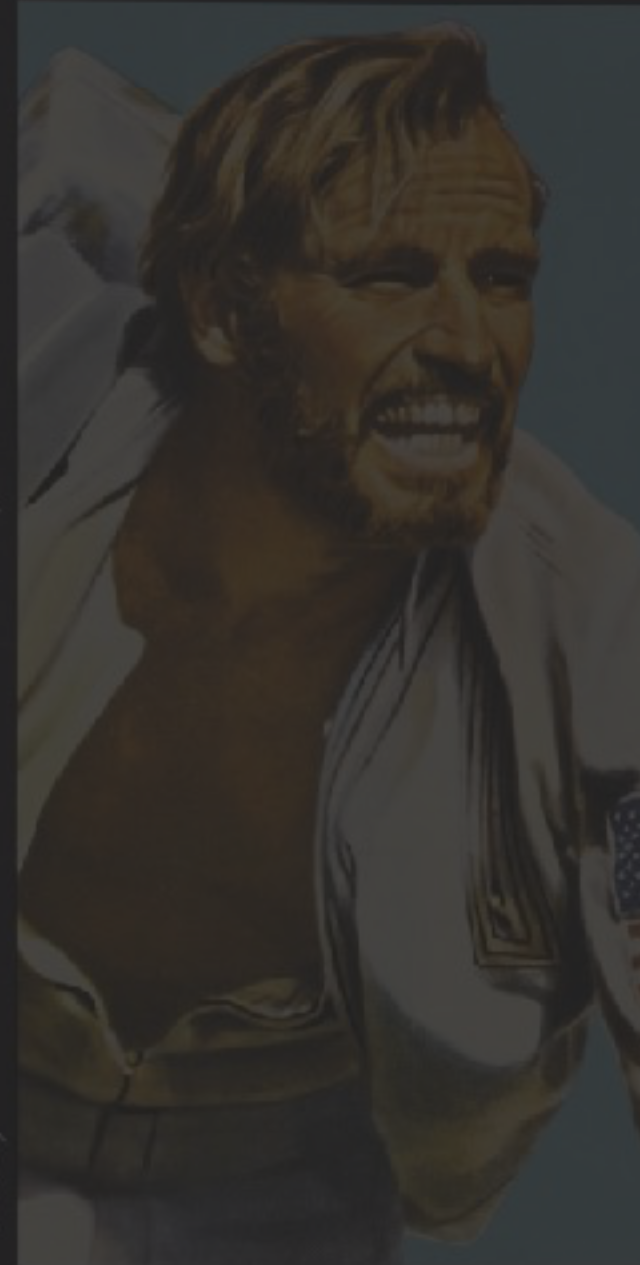
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An unusual  
and important  
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author of  
"the Bridge  
on the  
River Kwai"!



Wakes up in the  
distant future when  
apes rule!



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INTRODUCING AS NOVA  
BASED ON A NOVEL BY PIERRE BOULLE  
MUSIC BY JERRY GOLDSMITH

# THE "INTERSTELLAR" PRINCIPLE

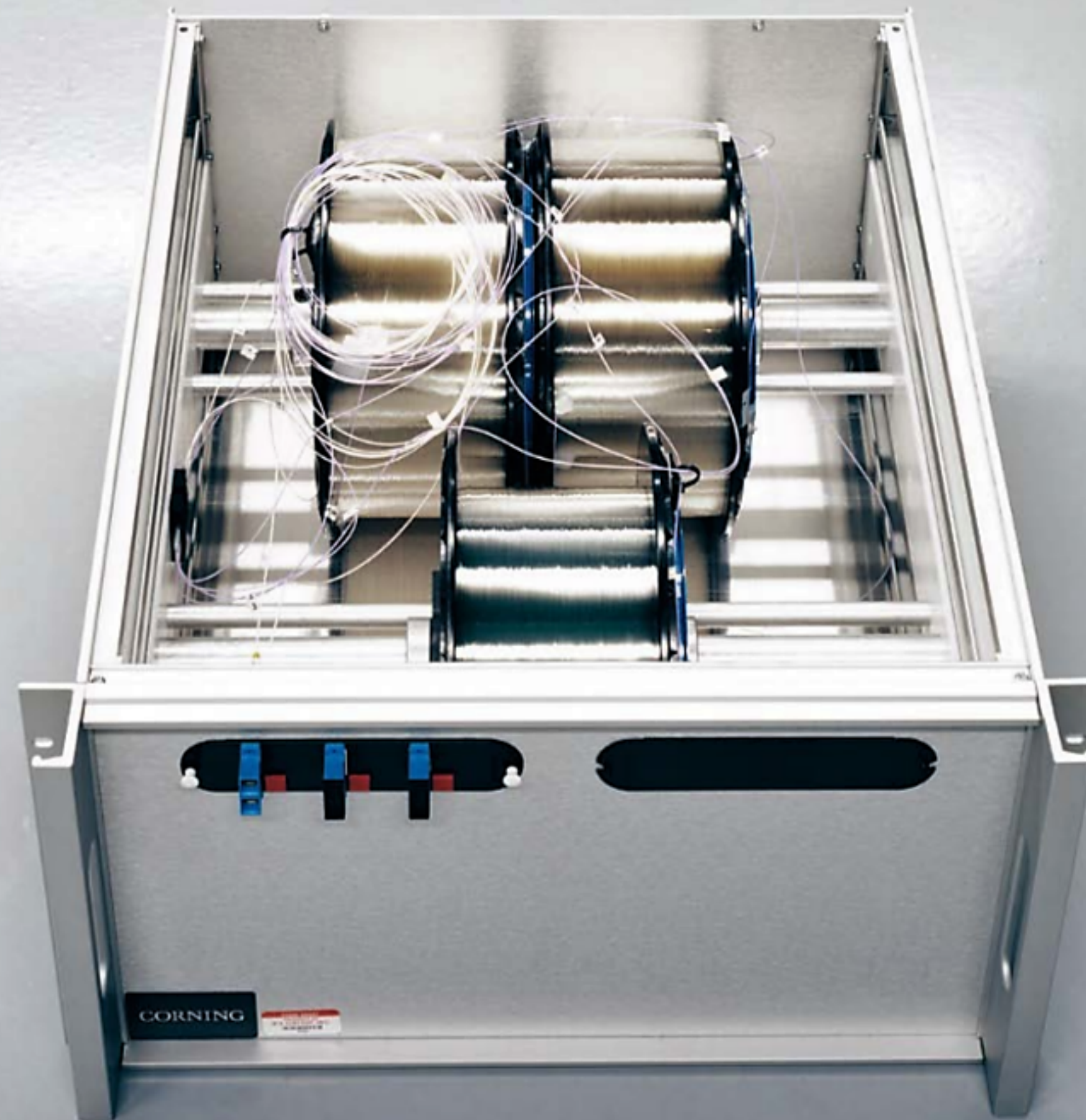
3 hours on  
Miller's Planet

Gravity slows  
clocks



# IEX SHOEBOX

61 km fiber loop  
adds 350  
microseconds



<https://iextrading.com/>  
via Hackaday